

### **2024** ANNUAL REPORT Our home is worth protecting.

### A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Supporters of Galveston Bay,

I am filled with gratitude as I reflect on the remarkable success we had in 2024 with our collective efforts to protect and restore Galveston Bay. Thanks to your continued support, we have advanced vital conservation work, fostered strong community partnerships, and made meaningful strides toward a healthier, more resilient Galveston Bay. These achievements are a testament to the power of collaboration and your support.

We are excited about beginning construction of The Gessner Center, our new home on Galveston Bay where thousands of people will experience Galveston Bay firsthand. The Gessner Center is now slated to open in mid-2026. The work we've done this year is just the beginning, and with your continued partnership, we will keep pushing forward toward a brighter future.

Thank you for your loyal support. Together, we are creating a legacy of environmental stewardship for Galveston Bay. I look forward to what we will accomplish in 2025 and in the years to come.

With heartfelt appreciation,



**Bob Stokes** 



President, Galveston Bay Foundation



### THE GESSNER CENTER IS ALMOST HERE.

#### Construction has begun!

Our new headquarters is officially under construction! This state-of-the-art facility will serve as a hub for our work in preserving and protecting the Galveston Bay ecosystem and will provide access to Galveston Bay for thousands.

The center is designed to promote environmental stewardship, provide educational opportunities, and foster community engagement in conservation efforts. It will be a place for the community to gather and experience Galveston Bay firsthand for generations to come!

For more information or to support this ongoing project, please visit: galvbayfoundation.org/thegessnercenter





### 2024 Galveston Bay Foundation EDUCATION

Galveston Bay Foundation's education programs allow students K-12 to connect to nature and become future stewards of the Bay through hands-on STEM curriculum.



students took part in our STEM learning experiences.

15,018





# 2024 Galveston Bay Foundation

Galveston Bay Foundation's habitat restoration programs protect and restore the Bay's natural resources.







# 2024 Galveston Bay Foundation D CONSERVATION

Galveston Bay Foundation's land conservation programs protect vital habitat in perpetuity.



acres of Chocolate Bay Preserve were part of our first prescribed

burn to remove invasive species and promote native growth.

**new land acquisitions,** including Edward's Point, Nissi LLC, Pine Gully, Salt Bayou, and West Galveston Bay Mitigation Bank.

472

5





## 2024 Galveston Bay Foundation **RESEARCH**

The Galveston Bay Dolphin Research Program provides vital data to help understand dolphin activity and assess the health of the Bay.



10	<ul> <li>year anniversary of the Galveston Bay Dolphin Research</li> <li>Program, celebrating a decade of dolphin research in the Bay.</li> </ul>	
41	<b>boat-based surveys conducted</b> , nearly double the amount conducted in 2023.	
2,196	<b>dolphins sighted</b> from our land-based Seawolf Park Research Statio and boat-based surveys.	n
1,263	<b>nautical miles surveyed in the Bay</b> , bringing our total distance surveyed to 11,555 nautical miles.	





# 2024 Galveston Bay Foundation

Galveston Bay Foundation's water protection programs help protect the quality of Galveston Bay's water for all.





Galveston Bay Foundation's volunteers gain invaluable hands-on experience in environmental conservation and restoration while making an impact for Galveston Bay.



total volunteers made a difference for Galveston Bay in 2024.

#### \$100,000+

Andy and Barbara Gessner The Brown Foundation, Inc. Marvy Finger Family Foundation National Fish and Wildlife Foundation John and Kyle Kirksey Lesil Gessner Kate Mytchak Andrew Mytchak David Mytchak **Kirby Corporation** Transocean Ltd. **Building Conservation Trust** The Fondren Foundation Jonathan Ackerman and Courtney Jean LyondellBasell Andrew and Eloise Novotny Mark and Connally Burroughs Ab and Sidney Fay Janelle and Lawry Daniel George and Lisa Francisco Phillips 66 **AET Inc Limited Dickey Family** Gene Glover Harry and Macey Reasoner Harper and Kelley Trammell

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GALVESTON BAY IS MORE THAN JUST A BODY OF WATER — IT IS THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY. FROM COASTAL FLOOD PROTECTION TO CHERISHED RECREATION, THE BAY TOUCHES ALL OUR LIVES.







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