



Date: May 2026

Purpose

This statement certifies that the Texas Species of Conservation Interest (SIC) and Forest Ecosystems of Conservation Value (FECV) lists maintained by the Texas SIC are aligned with the most current, publicly available NatureServe Explorer data and ecosystem classification standards.

Data Sources and Standards

- NatureServe Explorer, the authoritative source for conservation status and distribution of species and ecosystems in the Americas
- NatureServe Ecosystem Classification & International Vegetation Classification (IVC) framework, as used by Explorer for ecosystem tracking
- U.S. National Vegetation Classification (USNVC) Version 3.0, released October 21, 2025, which updated and aligned U.S. ecosystem classification with global standards without invalidating existing ecosystem concepts

Scope of Review

A comparative review was conducted between:

1. The Species and Ecosystems tabs of the Texas SIC/FECV database (December 2024), and
2. Current NatureServe Explorer records for Texas (accessed April 2026).

The review evaluated:

- Species presence/absence
- Global (G-rank) and Texas subnational (S-rank) conservation status
- Ecosystem inclusion and classification context
- Structural changes introduced by USNVC 3.0

Findings

- Species: No new G1 or G2 species occurring in Texas were identified in NatureServe Explorer that are missing from the current SIC list, and no listed species show rank changes that would affect inclusion or exclusion.



- Ecosystems: All ecosystems listed in the FECV tab remain valid and recognized by NatureServe. The USNVC 3.0 update refined ecosystem hierarchy and descriptions but did not remove, replace, or newly add Texas ecosystem types requiring changes to the existing list.
- Overall Alignment: The Texas SIC and FECV lists are consistent with NatureServe's current species tracking and ecosystem classification frameworks.

Certification

Based on this review, we hereby certify that the Texas Species of Conservation Interest and Forest Ecosystems of Conservation Value lists are accurately aligned with NatureServe Explorer data and classification standards as of April 2026. No substantive additions, removals, or conservation-status changes are required at this time to maintain NatureServe compliance.

Continuity and Updates

This certification will remain valid until NatureServe publishes future species status changes or ecosystem classification revisions that materially affect Texas occurrences. Periodic reassessment against NatureServe Explorer is recommended to ensure continued alignment.