



South Padre Island Birding & Nature Center

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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate Release

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South Padre Island Launches iNaturalist Project

Do you enjoy nature photography? Your photos can become valuable data for conservation research through iNaturalist, an online citizen science platform. The City of South Padre Island alongside the SPI Birding & Nature Center invites residents and visitors to contribute their observations of Monarch butterflies and native Milkweed species on SPI to our newly created “Monarchs and Native Milkweeds of South Padre Island” iNaturalist project. This project has been established to gain a better understanding of Monarch ecology and habitat on SPI that will in turn help towards conservation actions on the Island.

The Monarch butterfly is an iconic species known world-wide. Monarchs migrating through the "Texas Funnel" on the coastal flyway come straight through South Padre Island and the surrounding landscapes, making this area a critical stretch in their yearly migration. Unfortunately, this beautiful butterfly has suffered alarming population declines in recent years for a variety of reasons. Contributing to the project is an easy and fun way to get involved in the conservation of this special butterfly.

Join the project at www.inaturalist.org/projects/monarchs-and-native-milkweeds-of-south-padre-island

The City of South Padre Island’s Mayor, Barry Patel, signed the NWF Mayor’s Monarch Pledge in October 2016. The pledge identifies key strategies cities can take to help the plight of the Monarchs.

“We are pleased to be working with the Birding and Nature Center to help protect Monarchs”, said Mayor Patel. For more info visit spibirding.com. Explore. Learn. Record