ISSUE 1 · SEPTEMBER 2024

## **GSL GRUNT**

Promoting Conservation in the Gulf of Mexico



**GulfSeeLife** 

## **A Journey Begins!**

Welcome to the first edition of the GulfSeeLife community newsletter! We're excited to share updates, insights, and highlights from our ongoing work, while also showing appreciation for our most active community members. This platform will keep you informed about the remarkable contributions from our community and the research we're supporting. We are truly grateful for the recent outpouring of support from communities along the Gulf Coast. Your involvement and enthusiasm have been essential in driving our mission forward. Whether you're contributing observations, sharing knowledge, or spreading the word, every action brings us closer to understanding and preserving the unique ecosystem we all cherish. Thank you for standing with us on this journey — we're just getting started!



## New Species Additions:

THANKS TO YOUR
OBSERVATIONS WE'VE
ADDED THE FOLLOWING
SPECIES:

RUBY-THROTED HUMMINGBIRD

BLACKCHEEK TONGUEFISH

POLKA DOT BATFISH

SCALED SARDINE

LEAST PUFFER

PINK MEANIE JELLYFISH

SPINYBACK ORBWEAVER

EASTERN LUBBER GRASSHOPPER

HORSE-BEAN LONGHORN BEETLE

**BOX TURTLE** 

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Moon Jelly spotted by Carrie Chase along the beach in Galveston, Texas on September 23rd. This stunning observation, which has garnered 18 likes, was classified as research grade, contributing valuable data to our understanding of marine life. Moon Jellies (Aurelia aurita) are known for their translucent, umbrella-shaped bodies and gentle pulsating movements. They feed on small plankton and can grow up to 15 inches in diameter. While their stings are mild and typically harmless to people, they play a critical role in marine ecosystems by controlling plankton populations. Thank you, Carrie, for your fantastic contribution to GulfSeeLife!



## **Get Involved!**

If you are an angler in the Northern Gulf who frequents artificial reefs, we need your help! Our own Kayleigh Mazariegos is currently a PhD student at the University of Mississippi and is interested in the communities of fish found at shallow water artificial reefs. Currently, she deploys specialized underwater microphones to detect species that are calling. With your help, she would like to compare the species found by sound to the species you are catching. In the future, this research will be used to determine what types of artificial reefs should be added to maximize fish species present in the area!

To sign up for this project please register in the project portion of GSL here: <a href="https://www.gulfseelife.org/node/490">https://www.gulfseelife.org/node/490</a>



71 NEW OBSERVATIONS



458 NEW USERS







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