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## 71 Injured, Orphaned Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets Rescued by Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center of Texas

*Some Juvenile Birds Also Found Dead on Breeding Ground for Protected Species*

[Hi-res Images of Expert Triage Care Here](#)

(HOUSTON) May 14, 2022 – The Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center of Texas team was called to a scene by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department yesterday afternoon where scores of injured and/or orphaned juvenile great blue herons and great egrets were discovered with broken wings, mangled legs and internal injuries after their nesting area had been destroyed. Dozens of others were found dead.



The Houston SPCA Wildlife Center of Texas team rescued 71 vulnerable baby birds from the property including several who were found alive inside a trash bag that also contained several dead birds. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is conducting an ongoing investigation.

The young birds are in the care of the Houston SPCA Wildlife Center of Texas' veterinarians and expert wildlife staff where they are being closely monitored and receiving medical care. The birds will remain in their care until they can be released back to the wild.

Migratory birds like egrets and herons are protected by state law and are federally protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). More than 1,000 species are protected under the MBTA and it is unlawful to kill, injure or capture them.

Each year, the Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center of Texas cares for more than 12,000 native wild animals, comprising more than 360 species at their Campus for All Animals at 7007 Old Katy Road in Houston.

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