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Mississippi Kites Take Flight After Hurricane Beryl Blew Them Out of Nests

More Than 1,800 Wild Animals Rescued or Brought into the Houston SPCA Wildlife Center of Texas Following Hurricane Beryl's Landfall

LINK: Images and B-roll of Mississippi Kite's Release

HOUSTON (August 9, 2024) — Thirteen Mississippi Kites were released today at a park in Sugar Land. They were among the more than 1,800 wild animals who were taken into the care of the Houston SPCA Wildlife Center after Hurricane Beryl slammed into the Texas coast.

These <u>Mississippi Kites</u> came in as babies and were treated by expert veterinary and wildlife staff over the last couple of weeks. The young birds spent time in



their Outdoor Flight Complex to build their muscles and body mass to prepare for their migratory journey back to South America over the next month. The Houston SPCA Wildlife Center has already cared for over 13,000 wild animals since January 2024.

The week after Hurricane Beryl made landfall, more than 1,800 native wild animals were brought to their campus including 212 Mississippi kites as well as scores of mourning doves, blue jays, mockingbirds, opossums and more.

The Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center operates solely on donations and must always be ready to respond to natural disasters like Hurricane Beryl. <u>Please consider supporting</u> one of the nation's largest wildlife rehabilitation centers located at the Houston SPCA where more than 14,000 wild animals were brought into their care in 2023.