

Jed Aplaca

Jed Aplaca is the President and CEO of Birds Houston (formally Houston Audubon), where he leads regional efforts to protect bird habitat, strengthen coastal ecosystems, and advance community-centered conservation. A conservation biologist by training, Jed's career spans more than two decades of land stewardship, ecological restoration, and public-sector leadership. His path began in his home state of Hawaii, where early fieldwork with the National Science Foundation and The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii shaped his commitment to safeguarding natural ecosystems.

He holds a B.S. in Conservation Biology from Brigham Young University and an M.S. in Biology from Texas State University–San Marcos, where he published research on the non-native flora of Texas.

Before joining Birds Houston, Jed served as the City of Houston's first Natural Resources Manager and later as Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Pasadena. Across these roles, he developed and implemented programs focused on habitat restoration, invasive species management, green infrastructure, and community engagement.

He brings to this committee a deep understanding of Gulf Coast ecosystems, a collaborative approach to regional problem-solving, and a long-standing commitment to ensuring that conservation and community priorities advance hand in hand.