

# MOTUS & THE NERRS



Map of NERRS sites

The National Estuarine Research Reserves System (NERRS) is a program created to preserve, protect, and restore the coastal estuaries of the United States. The system is comprised of 30 reserves across 25 different states and territories.

The NERRS use the Motus system to study topics like migration patterns and flight speeds. Due to the significance of estuaries in the breeding and migration of coastal birds, Motus has greatly helped understand bird populations in the reserves. Knowledge gathered through Motus can then inform the NERRS to improve management and conservation practices.

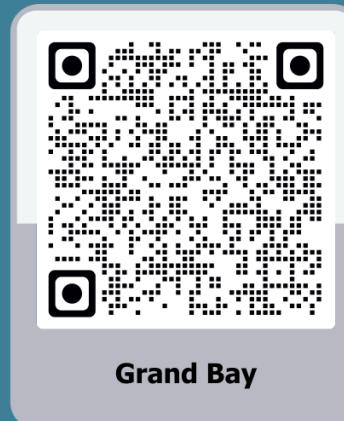
## STAY CONNECTED

OUR MOTUS NETWORK IS ALWAYS GROWING



NERRS Motus tower locations

## SEE OUR DETECTIONS



Grand Bay

CHECK US OUT HERE

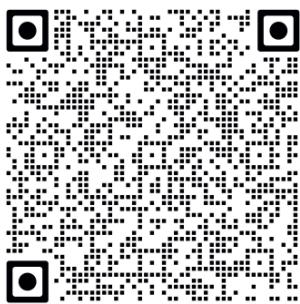
- <https://grandbaynerr.org/>
- [Motus.org](http://Motus.org)



## WELCOME, VISITOR!

Welcome to our National Estuarine Research Reserve! As you explore, keep an eye out for our Motus towers—part of an exciting global network tracking the movements of birds, bats, and insects. These towers detect tiny radio tags on animals flying by, providing scientists with valuable insights into their migration patterns and conservation needs. You're standing at the forefront of wildlife science, where every tag and tower helps us uncover the mysteries of animal journeys.

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?



NERRS Motus



## TOP DETECTED SPECIES AT GRAND BAY

Three species have been detected passing by the Grand Bay tower so far. More are being detected all the time. These are the species for which we have detected the greatest number of individuals:



Least Tern  
*Sternula antillarum*

The world's smallest Tern, the Least Tern, is a charismatic species. Least Terns nest in colonies on beaches along the coast and large inland rivers. They spend the breeding season in North America and the Caribbean and then migrate south to Central and northern South America.

### Swainson's Thrush

*Catharus ustulatus*



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The Swainson's Thrush is known for its spiraling, upward song that echoes through the forests of North America during its breeding season. This long-distance migratory bird travels from northern forests to wintering grounds in Central and South America, using forested corridors that link ecosystems across the Americas.

Wood Thrush  
*Hylocichla mustelina*



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The Wood Thrush is renowned for its beautiful, flute-like song, which resonates through the deciduous forests of eastern North America where it breeds. Migrating to Central America for the winter, this species is closely tied to the health of both North and Central American forests, and its population decline highlights the importance of forest conservation across continents.