



A CALL TO ACTION



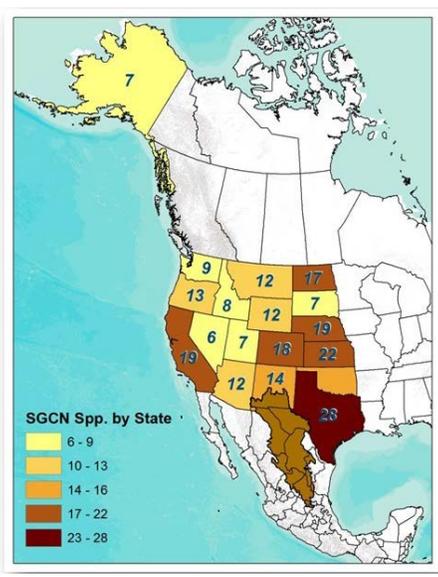
Conserving Species of Greatest Conservation Need

Birds remain some of the most notable and beloved wildlife in the United States and retain an integral part of our nation’s imagination. From the sight of a singing meadowlark to shorebirds that migrate thousands of miles a year, migratory birds play an important ecological and cultural role in the United States. Conserving migratory birds requires a flexible, sustainable, comprehensive conservation approach. It involves international, coordinated efforts across the full annual-cycle. Southern Wings helps facilitate conservation of migratory bird Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN), through the protection and conservation of the SGCN’s on their non-breeding grounds in the Western Hemisphere. This work complements the on the ground actions by state fish and wildlife agencies and aims to help states achieve the objectives of their SWAPs.

Thirty-nine state fish and wildlife agencies have contributed over 3.2 million to the conservation of 81 Species of Greatest Conservation Need migratory bird species on stop-over sites and wintering grounds to complement in-state investment in 24 different projects in 11 countries.

GRASSLAND BIRD CONSERVATION: The U.S. states have seen a dramatic decline in grassland bird populations. At least 28 species of grassland birds breeding in western North America overwinter in Chihuahuan Desert grasslands for up to 8 months per year. Southern Wings is one partner in Bird Conservancy of the Rockies efforts to reverse these declines. To date, they have enrolled 504,000 acres in the SGN since 2013 and improved over 105,000 acres of grassland.

PIPING PLOVER CONSERVATION: Conserving migratory bird species requires year-round conservation action at critical sites. Southern Wings has been a proud contributor to National Audubon Society’s and Bahama National Trust’s efforts in the Bahamas since 2013. As the wintering grounds and migratory routes are the largest areas of population winters here, actions in the Bahamas are critical interventions. Being able to identify the most strategic places to implement the actions was made possible by strong science and research followed by on the ground action such as the designation of the 92,000-acre Joulter Cay as a national park. For more information, click [here](#).



Number of SGCN species in WAFWA states that depend on the Chihuahuan Desert



Vision: Healthy and sustainable populations of migratory birds throughout the Western Hemisphere that are enjoyed for generations to come.
Mission: Encourage and facilitate state fish and wildlife agency participation in conservation projects for shared priority birds in Mexico, Central America, South American and the Caribbean.



Photo credit Tessa Nickels

MIGRATORY WARBLER CONSERVATION: Over 153 shared migratory birds have been identified in the Izabal region of Guatemala including stopover sites for cerulean warblers and wintering/nonbreeding sites for golden-winged warblers. Working with FUNDAECO and American Bird Conservancy, partners conserve and manage strategically identified migratory bird habitat through land acquisition and management, agroforestry, and monitoring. Southern Wings has helped conserve over 11,000 acres.

Southern Wings Can Provide Non-federal Match for State Wildlife Grants and Pittman-Robertson Funds

WHY SOUTHERN WINGS?

Southern Wings:

- offers an easy, transparent, and flexible process for states to effectively conserve their migratory bird SGCNs through annual life-cycle conservation;
- is a critical complement to in-state investment;
- leverages limited state funds and can provide non-federal match for SWG and PR funds;
- identifies strategic, biologically relevant projects with outstanding conservation partners that provide the most bang for your conservation buck; and
- helps keep species off the Endangered Species Act by addressing annual life-cycle conservation needs.



Photo credit Mike Parr



Photo credit Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

TO REVERSE POPULATION DECLINES, FUNDING IS NEEDED!

- Support conservation action for your priority SGCN species through these [projects](#).
- Contact us to discuss participation or get your questions answered.
- If you are participating, consider how to increase your contributions.
- Let Southern Wings help you match SWG or PR funds.
- Integrate annual life-cycle into the next iteration of your SWAP.