



NBII Bird Conservation Node

The NBII Bird Conservation Node is supporting the conservation of bird populations and their habitats in North America...

NBII Background

The National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) <www.nbii.gov> is an electronic information network that provides access to biological data and information on our nation's plants, animals, and ecosystems. Data and information maintained by federal, state, and local government agencies; non-government organizations; and private-sector organizations are linked through the NBII gateway and made accessible to a variety of audiences including researchers, natural resource managers, decision-makers, educators, students, and other private citizens.

Implementation of the NBII is proceeding through a network of nodes that serve as interconnected



Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*)

entry points to the NBII and the information maintained by partners. These nodes function as fully digital, distributed, and interactive systems that focus on identifying, developing, and managing content on a defined subject area (thematic nodes) or a geographic region (regional nodes). The Bird Conservation Node is one of the NBII's thematic nodes. This node provides access to data and information in support of bird conservation across North America.

Node Focus

The NBII Bird Conservation Node is supporting the conservation of bird populations and their habitats in North America by providing online access to information resources and by facilitating the development and online availability of data sets, standards for data sharing, and tools for data management and visualization.

The timely availability of data is critical to support North American bird conservation activities and provide baseline information to assess status and trends. The node continues its emphasis on improved data accessibility by supporting: (1) the conversion of data to electronic formats; (2) the consolidation of dispersed data sets into common database structures and formats; and (3) the development of Web-based data entry and retrieval systems.

As bird population monitoring efforts are implemented at various geographic scales, there is an increased need to access data, protocols, standards, and methodologies for data collection, management, and delivery. The node promotes and increases an awareness

of this need by integrating important bird monitoring data sets and by facilitating access to information describing these data sets and their methods.

Data visualization tools can serve as supporting tools for the bird conservation

community to address complex conservation questions. With new Web-based mapping and data-exchange technologies, syntheses of data sets through such tools provide valuable sources of timely information in support of bird conservation. The node has been in the forefront of developing interactive Web-based applications that provide access to bird population data from multiple sources to support bird conservation planning.

Products

Since its inception, the Bird Conservation Node has focused on supporting projects that identify or provide access to existing bird population data in North America. Products resulting from these efforts, and additional bird-related information resources, are accessible through the



Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*)

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NBII Bird Conservation Node Web site <<http://birdcon.nbii.gov>>. These products include:

- Web-based mapping and data management system for breeding bird atlases in North America, resulting in the first repository for multiple breeding bird atlases.
- Web-based mapping applications that allow visualization of bird population monitoring data, species abundance maps, distribution maps, or USGS Landcover data for surveys like the North American Breeding Bird Survey, the North American Waterbird Monitoring Database, or the Waterfowl Breeding Population & Habitat Survey.
- Bird Monitoring Data Registry and Bird Monitoring Data Exchange schema that provide common standards for discovery and connectivity between distributed bird monitoring databases in North America.
- Web-based data retrieval interfaces for electronic data sets that provide access to raw data or data summaries; for example:
 - American Woodcock Singing-ground Survey
 - Mid-winter Bald Eagle Survey
 - Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) Program
 - North American Waterbird Monitoring Database



Wood Ducks (*Aix sponsa*)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/photo by Dave Menke

- Latin America and Caribbean Waterfowl Surveys
- Important Bird Areas for the Americas

Future node efforts will be directed towards providing greater access to bird population and habitat data and promoting the development of Web-based analytical and synthesis tools that support data integration for bird conservation in North America.

Partners

The NBII Bird Conservation Node was established as a collaborative

venture among organizations interested in supporting bird conservation and providing access to their bird data and information. The node is based on a network of partners that provides expertise in research, monitoring, and management of bird populations and habitats, as well as biological information management and delivery. Node implementation is proceeding under the direction of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) NBII Program, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Migratory Bird Management. These partners, in collaboration with a variety of other government organizations and non-government organizations, are working together to address the information needs of the bird conservation community.

Find a complete list of supported projects and partners on the Web at: <<http://birdcon.nbii.gov>>.

We invite you to contact us to explore opportunities for collaboration.

For More Information

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Find us on the Web at:
<<http://birdcon.nbii.gov>>.



Black-footed Albatross mating pair (*Phoebastria nigripes*)

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