

American Bird Conservancy  
**ANNUAL REPORT 2010**





ABC's President George Fenwick (left), and Board Chairman Jim Brumm (right). Photo: Gavin Shire

# a MESSAGE from the Chairman and President

Dear ABC friends and members,

Thank you for being a critical part of the American Bird Conservancy team's success in 2010; we look forward to continuing to lead in advancing bird conservation this year. The Board and staff of ABC think of you often over the course of the year because we appreciate your support—and because we need you often!

We are very ambitious at ABC, always pushing to do more: saving rare species, conserving habitats for WatchList species, and eliminating the worst threats—and with each new initiative to protect birds, an early question is, “How will we pay for it?” Throughout our 15 years, you have been the answer, so on behalf of birds and those who love them, thank you!

With this Annual Report, we think you will find that ABC has enjoyed its most successful year. The list of accomplishments is long, but our ABC culture drives us to imagine how much more we can achieve. And we want to achieve a lot, including:

- ✓ An end to bird extinction, and a reserve for every endangered species in the Americas
- ✓ Increasing populations for endangered, native Hawaiian birds
- ✓ An end to seabird bycatch from fisheries, and nesting areas free of alien predators
- ✓ Nationwide management of key U.S. habitats for WatchList bird species
- ✓ Conservation of the most important wintering habitats for neotropical migrants
- ✓ An end to the preventable lead poisoning of birds from ammunition and fishing weights



Carolina Wren: Greg Lavaty

- ✓ Cancellation of the remaining bird-killing pesticides still in use
- ✓ An affordable, easy-to-use, unobtrusive glass treatment to prevent bird collisions with windows
- ✓ Minimizing bird mortality related to all energy sources including wind and other forms of renewable energy

Each of these goals demands multiple strategies to succeed. Reserve creation begins with land acquisition, but ecolodges and other continuous sources

of income can help guarantee their sustainability; the elimination of the lead threat to birds can be achieved through the regulation of ammunition and fishing tackle but also the education of hunters and fishers; landscape-level habitat conservation necessitates partnerships at all levels from federal to local; proper pesticide regulation comes through direct government agency engagement as well as grassroots activism; and more science supports all our efforts, from preventing collisions with glass to knowing what makes good habitat for species in need.

In all, ABC is engaged in more than 100 programs to benefit birds, and each of these has goals, a plan, and is undertaken with the ABC Gold Standard for performance. So, take a moment to enjoy reading about our success in 2010 – then buckle your seat belts because we plan to be even more successful in 2011. And thanks again for being part of the solution!

*James E. Brumm*      *George H. Fenwick*  
 Jim Brumm              George Fenwick  
 Chairman, ABC          President, ABC

COVER PHOTO: Blackburnian Warbler: David Seibel

# Strategic Bird Conservation Framework

## Goals and Targets

## Proposed Actions

### Halt Extinctions

- Alliance for Zero Extinction and Stronghold sites
  - Important Bird Areas (IBAs) and habitats for Red WatchList species in the U.S. and migrants internationally
  - Endangered marine birds at sea
- Species that are, or should be, ESA listed

- Create sustainable reserves
- Restore islands
- Stop seabird bycatch
- List species under the Endangered Species Act; press for full ESA funding

Most Endangered

### Conserve Habitats

- IBAs and habitats for Yellow WatchList species in the U.S. and migrants internationally

- Best management practices; direct protection of habitats and IBAs
- Set population targets; promote conservation of WatchList birds among land managers and Joint Ventures
- Protect key sites and habitats for migrants internationally

WatchList Species

### Eliminate Threats

- Mortality affecting or likely to affect one million plus birds per year, or significantly affecting WatchList species
- Precedent-setting causes of mortality
  - Unethical practices with broad implications
- Significant threats to habitats
  - Federal funding programs that affect birds

- Direct interventions, public pressure, regulatory change, legal action, funding for solutions, education

All Species

Build the capacity and alliances needed to generate science-based conservation action

Sandhill Crane taking flight: Greg Lavaty

## SAFEGUARDING *the* RAREST

*ABC's on-the-ground work to safeguard the rarest birds now spans 11 countries and has protected habitats for more than 50 endangered and critically endangered bird species. The establishment of our partner reserves has resulted in the additional protection of many other threatened mammals, amphibians, reptiles, insects, and plants, and has led to the discovery of several species previously unknown to science. Through our leadership of the Alliance for Zero Extinction, 194 nations are now party to an agreement to protect the rarest species in their countries.*

### 2010 Highlights:

**Yellow-eared Parrot Downlisted (Colombia):** ABC and Fundación ProAves celebrated the downlisting of the Yellow-eared Parrot from Critically Endangered to Endangered on the IUCN Red List. The decision resulted from over a decade of conservation efforts dedicated towards saving this species from extinction that included reserve creation, habitat restoration, erection of nest boxes, and community engagement. Late in 2010, a new survey put the population at an all-time high of over 1,000 birds—up from just 81 in 1998.



Yellow-eared Parrots at nest box: Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)



Newell's Shearwater: Jim Denny, [kauaibirds.com](http://kauaibirds.com)

**Court Protection Won for Endangered Newell's Shearwaters (Hawai'i):** ABC and three other plaintiffs, represented by Earthjustice, successfully settled a lawsuit against St. Regis Princeville Resort over the deaths of endangered Newell's Shearwaters and Hawaiian Petrels on Kaua'i. St. Regis agreed to make improvements to their lighting (which attracts the seabirds and causes them to collide with buildings) and to commit funding to protect the seabirds on their nesting grounds.



Palila: Robby Kohley, April 2010

**Restoring Populations of Endangered Palila and Millerbird (Hawai'i):** With leadership support from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, ABC worked with the Hawai'i Division of Forestry and Wildlife and other local partners to conduct successful invasive predator control efforts in the Palila's core breeding habitat on the Big Island; the groups have now begun building a 59-mile fence to keep introduced sheep from entering the area. Additionally, ABC, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Honolulu Zoo, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and Pacific Rim Conservation have advanced efforts to protect the Critically Endangered Millerbird. Experimental captures and feeding trials of Millerbirds were made on Nihoa, the last refuge of the species, to prepare for future translocations to Laysan in the hopes of establishing a second population.

**AZE Helps UN Set Zero Extinction Target:** In front of representatives from 194 nations, ABC led the Alliance for Zero Extinction in an agreement with the UN's Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) that, for the first time, sets a global target to limit species loss. This agreement marks a significant step forward in worldwide efforts to prevent extinctions. ABC is now working with the Global Environment Facility and World Bank on a recently announced initiative to support AZE site conservation to back up the new CBD 2020 Strategic Plan.

ABC is grateful to the Beneficia and Frankenberg Foundations for their steady support of our AZE work.

**Galapagos Petrel Nesting Ground Restoration (Ecuador):** Working with local property owners, ABC and its local partner Aves y Conservación removed invasive plant species and restored native vegetation on prime nesting habitat for the critically endangered Galapagos Petrel bordering Galapagos National Park in Ecuador.

**Seabird Conservation Advanced (Ecuador, Peru, Chile):** With leadership support from the National Fish and Wildlife and Packard Foundations and Lynn and Stuart White, ABC and partners Equilibrio Azul and Pro Delphinus provided gear to fishermen in Ecuador and Peru to reduce bycatch of Waved Albatrosses. Additionally, in Chile, ABC is driving conservation efforts that are succeeding in persuading local communities to stop illegally capturing and eating endangered Pink-footed Shearwater chicks from a key nesting colony.



Nihoa Millerbird: Robby Kohley

# SPOTLIGHT

## ABC's Best Year Ever for Land Conservation

2010 was ABC's strongest year ever for protecting land for America's rarest bird species, with approximately 486,000 acres added to the Latin American Bird Reserve Network in four countries, plus habitat protected for WatchList species in the United States.

Together with seven in-country partners, we protected diverse and threatened habitats, including *Pobylepis* forests, Amazon lowlands, and white-sand forests in Peru; cloud forest in Colombia; inter-Andean dry-forest and savannah in Bolivia; and wetlands in Mexico. These important land protection projects could not have been possible without the generous support of the Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and World Land Trust.

Some of these protected areas, such as the El Dorado Reserve in Colombia and the Abra Patricia Reserve in Peru, are recognized as Alliance for Zero Extinction sites, representing the last known places where globally threatened species survive. Others contain stronghold populations of endangered birds, such as the Blue-throated Macaw in Bolivia and Royal Cinclodes in Peru. Others still are critical wintering or stopover sites for declining neotropical migratory birds such as the Cerulean Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, and Wood Thrush.

Many of the lands we protected in 2010 also safeguarded watersheds essential to downstream communities. The following pages list some of the land protection highlights for the year.



Bennett Hennessey, Executive Director of Asociación Armonía, (left) and George Fenwick (right) at the Barba Azul Reserve, Bolivia. August 2010. Photo: David Davidson

BACKGROUND: Forest near Apolobamba, Bolivia. Photo: Benjamin Skolnik, ABC



Ochre-fronted Antpitta: Roger Ahlman



Marvelous Spatuletail: Peter Morris

*“ABC has played a pivotal leadership role in Alliance for Zero Extinction’s work to prevent extinctions throughout the world, helping provide a safety net for endangered species worldwide.”*

— Dr. Ahmed Djoghlaif—Executive Secretary of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity



# Latin American Bird Reserve Network

# LAND ACQUISITION In 2010



Military Macaws: Glen Tepke

## Bolivia:

- Expanded the Blue-throated Macaw Reserve in Bolivia through acquisition of 2,850 acres of core habitat. Partner: Asociación Armonía.
- Secured 443,826 acres to create the second municipal integrated management area for the Endangered Red-fronted Macaw in Bolivia. Partner: Centro de Biodiversidad y Genetica.

## Colombia:

- Added 300 acres to the Parrot Corridor to protect the Critically Endangered Fuertes's Parrot and four other globally threatened parrot species. Partner: Fundación ProAves.
- Added 1,500 acres to the El Paujil Reserve to protect the Critically Endangered Blue-billed Curassow. Partner: Fundación ProAves.
- Added 250 acres to the El Dorado Reserve to protect the Critically Endangered Santa Marta Parakeet and ten other globally threatened bird species. Partner: Fundación ProAves.
- Created nine new conservation easements in the Cerulean Warbler Conservation Corridor totaling 270 acres. Partner: Fundación ProAves.



Blue-billed Curassow: Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org



Santa Marta Bush-tyrant: Joe Tobias

## Peru:

- Acquired 7,500 acres to complete the new Villa Carmen Reserve for the Blue-headed Macaw, Military Macaw, and Wattled Guan. Partner: Amazon Conservation Association.
- With support from ConocoPhillips and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, acquired 1,200 acres from willing private sellers to expand protected lands in the Allpahuayo Mishana National Reserve for the Critically Endangered Iquitos Gnatcatcher and several other endemic bird species. Partner: ProNaturaleza.
- Acquired 135 acres to expand the Abra Patricia Reserve for the Critically Endangered Ochre-fronted Antpitta, and the Endangered Long-whiskered Owlet and Royal Sunangel. Partner: ECOAN.
- Completed the 16,500-acre conservation concession adjacent to the Abra Patricia Reserve that will now be managed for threatened species. Partner: ECOAN.
- Established three new Private Conservation Areas on lands owned by indigenous communities totaling 8,469 acres to protect the Royal Cinclodes, White-browed Tit-spinetail, White-tailed Shrike-tyrant, and Ash-breasted Tit-tyrant. These new areas join two previously established areas for a total of over 9,200 acres in the Vilcanota Reserve Network. Partner: ECOAN.

## Mexico:

- With Amigos de Sian Ka'an and with support from the Southern Wings Program, assisted in the acquisition of 1,625 acres to protect key habitat for neotropical migratory birds such as the Kentucky Warbler and Wood Thrush in the Sian Ka'an-Yum Balam Corridor, Mexico.



Allpahuayo-Mishana National Reserve, Peru (above). Photo: Daniel J. Lebbin, 2010  
Iquitos Gnatcatcher (left). Photo: José Álvarez Alonso



(Opposite) Villa Carmen forest, Peru. Photo: Adrian Forsyth, Amazon Conservation Association, 2010

## CONSERVING HABITAT

Throughout the Americas, habitat loss is the greatest challenge facing threatened bird species. In Latin America, ABC and its partners engage in large-scale reforestation efforts to protect key habitats. Here at home, ABC influences the management of hundreds of millions of acres of public and private lands through its leadership of four Joint Ventures (Central Hardwoods, Appalachian Mountains, Oaks and Prairies and Rio Grande), which benefit countless WatchList species, and its alliance with multiple partners to conduct on-the-ground restoration and habitat protection across the nation.



Lewis's Woodpecker: Peter LaTourrette, www.birdphotography.com

*“ABC helps Columbia Land Trust conserve critical neotropical migratory bird habitat in Washington State while helping other groups conserve habitat in Oregon, California, Mexico, and Central America. And only ABC helps us acquire the upland and non-riparian areas that are so important to both Lewis’ Woodpecker and other priority bird species.”*

— Cherie Kearney—Forestry Initiative and Special Projects, Columbia Land Trust

### 2010 Highlights:

**Over 340,000 Trees Planted for Forest Conservation (Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Nicaragua):** With support from Conservation International’s Global Conservation Fund and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act, ABC has planted more than 340,000 native trees for the benefit of threatened endemic birds and dozens of species of neotropical migratory birds, such as the Cerulean Warbler and Golden-winged Warbler.

**Restoring Habitat in the Central Hardwoods Joint Venture (KY, TN, MO, AR, IL):** ABC worked with JV partners to initiate restoration on 130,000 acres of barrens, glades, and woodlands for WatchList species such as the Prairie Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, and Red-headed Woodpecker.

**Developing Best Management Practices for Warblers and Woodcock (MD, PA):** ABC and our Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture partners are spearheading the management and restoration of hundreds of thousands of acres of potential habitat for Golden-winged Warblers, American Woodcock, and other priority species in the region. Through a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, ABC is working with Indiana University of Pennsylvania to develop and test best management practices for restoring or improving Golden-winged Warbler breeding habitat in Maryland and Pennsylvania.



ABC's Benjamin Skolnik planting Polytepis seedlings, Bolivia 2009. Photo: Isabel Gomez



Golden-winged Warbler: G. Bartley/VIREO

Once completed, these practices will be integrated into habitat restoration projects throughout the area.

**8,000 Trees Planted for WatchList Species (MD):** ABC partnered with George’s Creek Watershed Association to reforest abandoned coal mines at Federal Hill in Allegany County, Maryland. Volunteers planted more than 8,000 trees, benefiting species such as Golden-winged Warbler and American Woodcock.

**Oak Habitat Restoration (WA):** Using funding from the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act, ABC and its partners are restoring oak habitat at five sites in central Washington State for species such as the Lewis’s Woodpecker, Ash-throated Flycatcher, and Western Wood-Pewee.

**Best Year Yet for Western Bluebird Reintroduction (WA):** The San Juan Islands reintroduction project continues with increases in the number of returning bluebirds, the size of the nesting population, and the number of young fledged each year. In 2010, 12 pairs fledged 84 young, double the number in 2009.

**Riparian Habitat Protected in the West (MT):** ABC facilitated a project under the Natural Resources Conservation Service’s Farm and Ranchland Protection Program to protect prime riparian and associated agricultural habitat, in partnership with the Flathead Land Trust and Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks.

## SPOTLIGHT

## Protecting Old-Growth Forest for the Marbled Murrelet

The diminutive Marbled Murrelet is an ecological curiosity. Unique to the Pacific Coast, one population of this endangered seabird nests on rocky shorelines, but another nests high in the trees of old-growth forests up to some 50 miles inland. In 2010, ABC helped protect critical forest habitat on Long Beach Peninsula, Washington.

With funding from the Malcolm C. Damuth Foundation, ABC helped its partner Columbia Land Trust acquire two tracts of highly threatened Sitka spruce forests that further consolidates a 1,000-acre protected conservation area that is owned and managed by the Trust.

The land was acquired from two private landowners; one property contains one of the last vestiges of old-growth forest on the Peninsula. Protection of sites such as this is critical to the overall recovery of the murrelet by providing suitable nesting habitat close to the ocean where the birds feed. The second property features a lakeside riparian corridor consisting of mature Sitka spruce, as well as younger forests that will be managed as future old-growth habitat.

Both properties are located between known nesting sites in the Willapa Bay watershed and the murrelet's foraging grounds in the Pacific Ocean. Their protection will help safeguard an important link in the habitat chain.

Waterfall and old-growth forest, Willamette National Forest, Oregon, 1998. Photo: Steve Holmer, ABC

Marbled Murrelet on nest. Photo: T. Hamer/VIREO

## ELIMINATING THREATS

*Collectively, ABC's actions to eliminate threats prevent the deaths of millions of birds each year — from night-migrating songbirds at risk from collisions, pesticides, and cats; to birds threatened by poor fishing practices and pollution; to raptors and waterfowl threatened by lead bullets and fishing lures. ABC leads the 200+ member Bird Conservation Alliance in addressing priority issues, acts in partnership with hundreds of organizations on the full range of threats to birds, and engages its network of 30,000+ grassroots activists to effectively push for regulatory change.*

### 2010 Highlights:

**ABC Wins Landmark Tower Agreement:** ABC and partners reached an agreement with the communications industry on a proposal for the FCC to require mandatory public notice and independent environmental assessments prior to construction of new communications towers over 450 feet tall, which are the deadliest to birds. This landmark victory is the result of a decade of effort led by ABC, and marks a significant step forward in preventing the deaths of birds at towers.

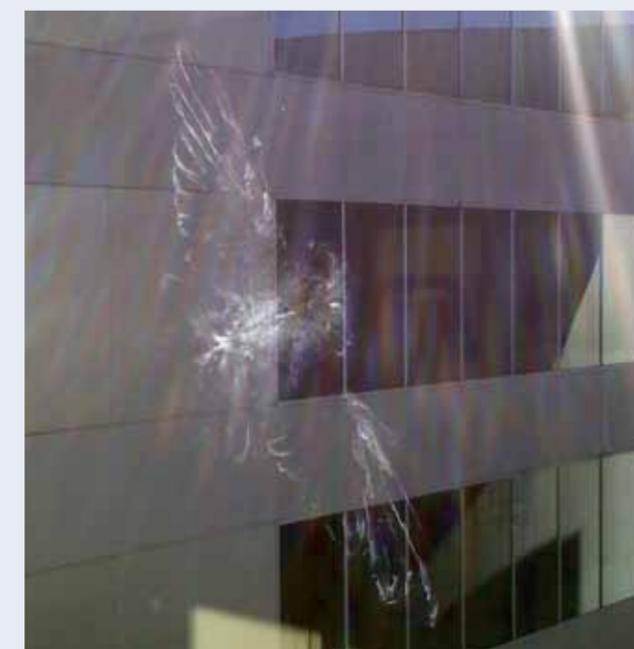
**Bird-Smart Wind Program Spins into Action:** With support from the Leon Levy Foundation, ABC launched its major new Bird-Smart Wind Campaign that seeks to address the hazards to birds posed by the burgeoning wind power industry. ABC is pro bird-smart wind power, which requires the industry to abide by mandatory standards that prevent bird collisions with turbines and their associated structures and protect sensitive bird habitats from the expanding wind power footprint.

**Eliminating Threats from Two Toxic Pesticides:** In the face of overwhelming scientific evidence and pressure from ABC and others in the environmental community, Bayer CropScience has agreed to end all U.S. uses of the pesticide aldicarb. This pesticide (trade name Temik) is acutely toxic to birds in even tiny amounts and is a documented killer of eagles. Since 2005, ABC has led the National Pesticide Reform Coalition in working to limit the uses of aldicarb, with the goal of full cancellation. EPA also announced the voluntary cancellation of the



pesticide endosulfan by Makteshim Agan of North America. The pesticide, which is toxic to birds and other wildlife, has already been banned in 60 countries. With strong support from the Wallace Genetic and Turner Foundations, ABC has worked steadily on this issue for many years.

**Focus on the Gulf Oil Spill:** ABC produced a report on the spill with specific recommendations to improve the protection of key nesting areas for resident bird species in the Gulf of Mexico, and has provided it to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and members of Congress. Recommendations include using better booms to contain oil and protect nesting islands, and fencing off critical beach nesting areas to prevent trampling by crews cleaning up oil in the area. ABC is also spearheading the raising of resources for multiple partner projects to restore or create additional habitat in the Gulf region at key sites for nesting seabirds and wintering shorebirds. Watch ABC's Bird News Network video on the Gulf oil spill at [www.abcbirds.org/newsandreports/video.html](http://www.abcbirds.org/newsandreports/video.html).



A ghostly imprint shows where an owl struck this window. Photo: Barbara Carlsen, Denver CO, 2010

**Congress Addresses Threat to Birds from Glass:** A bill was introduced into the House of Representatives by Congressman Mike Quigley (D-IL) to mandate that all new federal buildings be built according to bird-friendly guidelines developed by ABC—the first time that such a sweeping bill to protect millions of birds from colliding with glass has been considered by the government. The Congressional Budget Office determined that the bill was “cost-neutral”, and there is general support for it in the House. With the support built this year, we hope this bill will be reintroduced and passed into law in 2011.



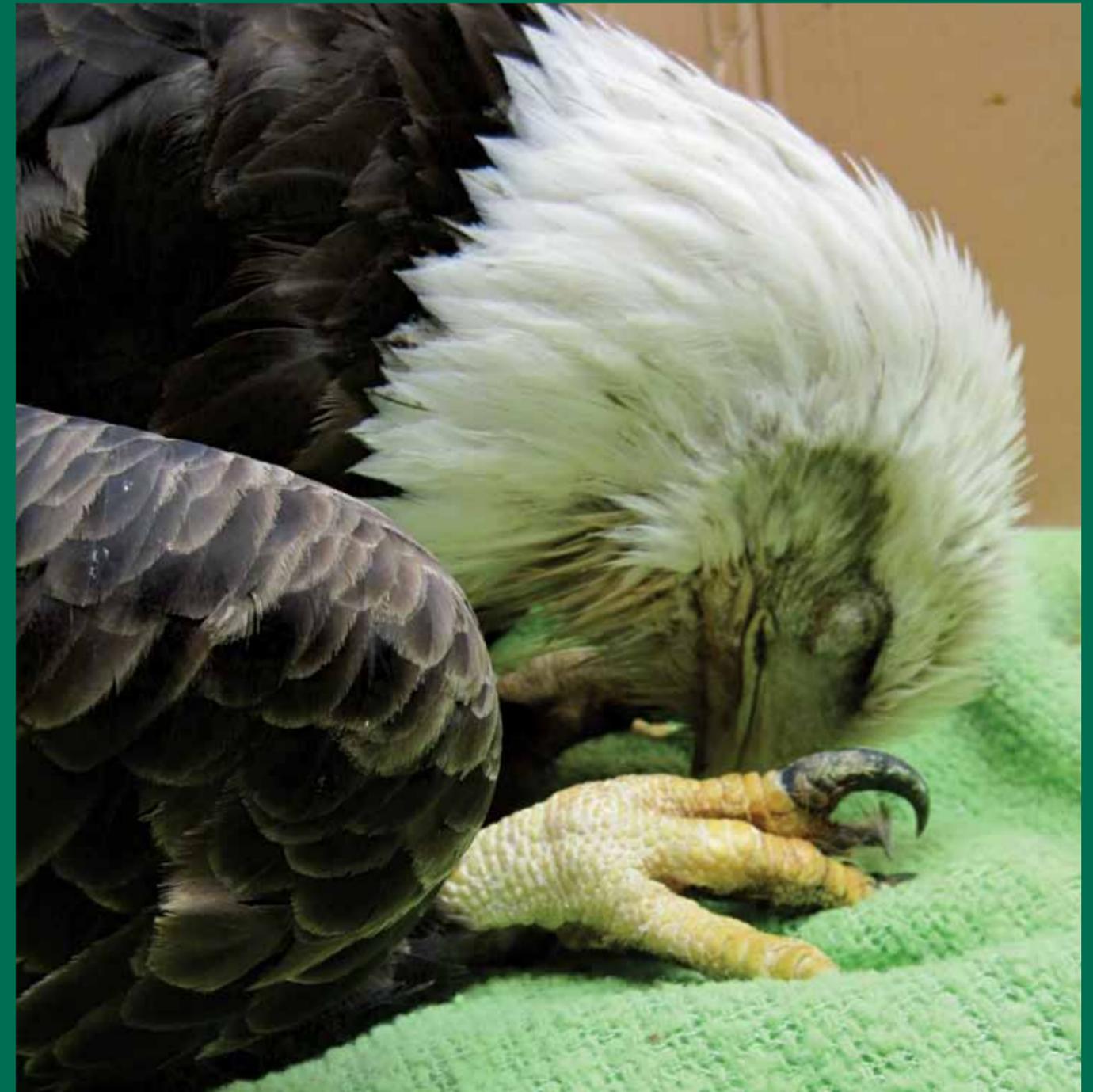
# SPOTLIGHT

## Efforts to Eliminate the Threat from Lead

There is perhaps no sadder sight than that of a once-majestic Bald Eagle, graceful Trumpeter Swan, or endangered California Condor dying slowly and painfully from lead poisoning after consuming lead shot, bullet fragments, or fishing gear. This all-too-frequent occurrence spurred ABC to launch a new campaign to reduce avian exposure to toxic lead in the environment.

The campaign began with a petition to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to ban lead in ammunition and fishing tackle. The petition was rejected by EPA based on their incorrect assertion that they do not have the authority. Nevertheless, we succeeded in elevating the public profile of this extremely serious issue that kills an estimated 10-20 million birds each year in the United States.

ABC will pursue its goal of eliminating lead contamination through continuing efforts to educate hunters and fishers, and by working with industry leaders, other non-profit groups, and state wildlife groups to promote lead-free alternatives. The Outdoor Writers Association of America has now taken up this cause and made it their conservation issue for 2011.



*“Lead poisoning poses a devastating hazard to many bird species. The educational component on this issue provided by American Bird Conservancy continues to play a major role in bringing solid scientific information to the public so they can make better choices for the future of our environment, wildlife, and ourselves.”*

Marge Gibson  
Executive Director, Raptor Education Group, Inc.

A Bald Eagle suffering from lead poisoning. Although it was treated by skilled wildlife rehabilitators, this bird did not survive. Photo: Marge Gibson.

## BUILDING CAPACITY

*Without a strong scientific foundation, adequate funding, and engagement by multiple stakeholders, the business of bird conservation cannot succeed. ABC led efforts to secure millions of federal dollars for key national and international bird programs, concluded the enormously successful five-year American Birds Campaign with critical support from the Leo Model Foundation, blazed the trail in studying the science behind threats to birds, and created a new concept to promote birdwatching tourism while sustaining international bird reserves. In 2011, with support from the Blue Moon Fund, ABC will build partner capacity in five countries.*

### 2010 Highlights:

**Millions Generated in Federal Bird Funding:** Through its leadership of the Bird Conservation Funding Coalition, ABC helped garner more than \$30 million in public funding for bird conservation for 2011, including money for cooperative Joint Venture programs, the North American Waterfowl Conservation Act, Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act, and Hawaiian bird conservation through both public and private sources.

**Conservation Birding Sets New Ecotourism Standard:** ABC launched the new Conservation Birding website ([www.conservationbirding.org](http://www.conservationbirding.org)) combined with the publication of a new guide, *The Latin American Bird Reserve Network*, both aimed at attracting ecotourism to ABC partner bird reserves in Latin America. The profits from ecotourism go directly to the reserves to support conservation efforts for threatened birds.

**Building Reserve Infrastructure for the Future:** With leadership support from the Jeniam Foundation, Warren and Cathy Cooke, Jeff and Connie Woodman, and Marybeth Sollins, ABC improved infrastructure at existing bird reserves through the construction of new research and ranger stations and road improvement at five reserves in Brazil, Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru, helping our in-country partners better conserve threatened birds such as the Stresemann's Bristlefront, Blue-throated Macaw, Jocotoco Antpitta, and Long-whiskered Owllet.



Hawaiian Petrel: Michael Walther, Oahu Nature Tours

*“The growing involvement of American Bird Conservancy in conservation in Hawai'i over the past several years has led to a sea-change in the national attention to the plight of native birds in the islands. ABC is a committed, creative, and tireless partner.”*

—Holly Freifeld  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Women for Conservation Program Aids Colombian Reserves:** With support from the Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation, ABC and ProAves grew the Women for Conservation program, which fosters local support for Colombian bird reserves by generating income for women struggling to make a living in the reserve buffer zones. The program now spans four reserves, engaging 60 women in making jewelry that is sold to visitors and is now available online ([www.amparocrafts.com](http://www.amparocrafts.com)).

**Collisions Studies for Architects:** ABC has developed a continuing education credit course for architects to draw attention to the problem of bird collisions with glass and how new and existing buildings can be designed or modified to minimize the threat. In partnership with the Carnegie Museum of Natural History's Powdermill Avian Research Center in southwestern Pennsylvania, ABC has also made excellent progress in determining the effectiveness of current products at preventing bird strikes on glass, and will release detailed results in 2011.

**New International Partnership Network:** ABC created the International Partner Network to formalize our relationship with our primary partners in Latin America and to facilitate better communication and collaboration

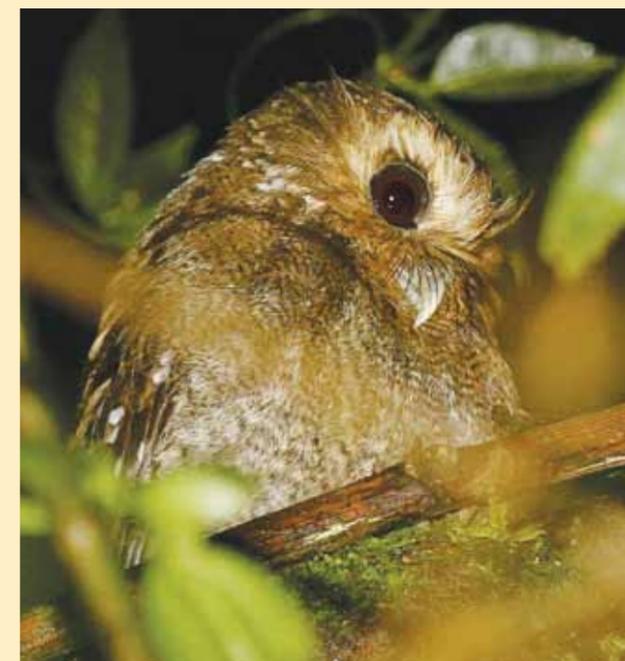


A participant in the Women in Conservation Program painting tagua jewelry, El Paujil, Colombia. Photo: Benjamin Skolnik, February 2010.

between all the participants. Charter members of the partnership are ABC, Fundación ProAves (Colombia), Fundación Jocotoco (Ecuador), Asociación Armonia (Bolivia), Fundação Biodiversitas (Brazil), and Asociación Ecosistemas Andinos (ECOAN – Peru).

**State of the Birds Report Spotlights Climate Change:** ABC was a key partner and author for the 2010 State of the Birds Report. This third annual report focused on the current and potential future impacts to birds from global warming, and was distributed to members of Congress and the public.

**Urban Sprawl Modeling:** ABC and partners at the USDA Forest Service and University of Wisconsin, Madison helped develop a new scientific tool for analyzing and mitigating the effects of urban sprawl on 34 priority bird species in central and south-central U.S. states. The tool can be used to educate land use planners about the impacts development can have on birds, and can also be adapted for use in other regions.



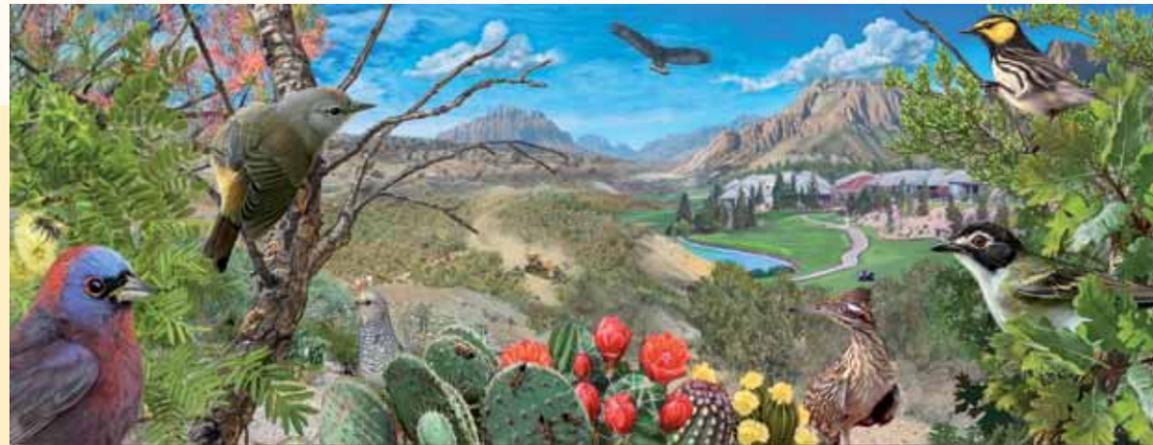
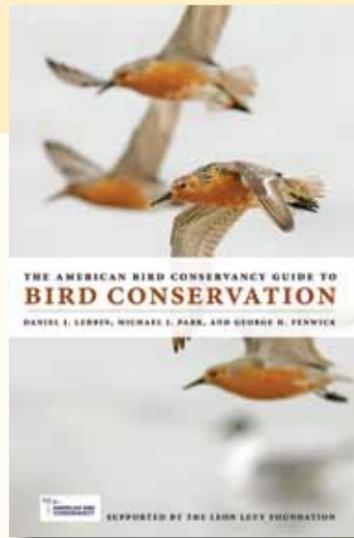
Long-whiskered Owllet: Roger Ahlman

# SPOTLIGHT

## *The ABC Guide to Bird Conservation*

Bookstores and online retailers are well-stocked with bird field guides, books on backyard bird feeding, and coffee table bird books. What has been lacking is a complete, engaging book on bird conservation, but thanks to ABC and a grant from the Leon Levy Foundation, that gap has now been filled. In 2010, ABC published the most authoritative book on bird conservation yet written – *The American Bird Conservancy Guide to Bird Conservation*. The book is the culmination of many years of work, and represents decades of combined staff experience. Accompanied by hundreds of beautiful bird photographs and illustrations, a foreword by acclaimed American novelist and ABC Board member Jonathan Franzen, plus stunning artwork, the book covers every major bird habitat type in the Americas and all significant threats to birds, with accounts for every U.S. WatchList species.

Using ABC's Strategic Conservation Framework as a founding principle, the book aims to provide the reader with a fundamental understanding of the issues facing birds today and, above all, explains how all of us can help solve the problems. It has already become an invaluable tool for anyone working in the field of bird conservation and a favorite among birders.



*“This book is a landmark accomplishment, not just for bird conservation in the Americas, but for biodiversity conservation in general. It is hard to imagine that anyone concerned with the conservation of any taxon anywhere would not wish for something like this to guide their work.”*

— Adrian Forsyth, President and co-founder, Amazon Conservation Association

Artwork courtesy of Chris Vest

# THE LONG VIEW:

## *A Bright Outlook for Tropical Andes Ecosystem Conservation*

In 2010, ABC and its partners successfully concluded the second phase of a highly collaborative initiative to engage local communities and conservation groups in protecting and restoring endangered Andean ecosystems and their native birds and wildlife. With the steady, generous leadership support of the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation over the last six years, we have been successful in:

- ✓ Protecting more than 15 endangered Andean ecosystems covering more than 600,000 acres in Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia, home to dozens of endangered species including the Long-whiskered Owlet, Jocotoco Antpitta, Ochre-fronted Antpitta, and Red-fronted Macaw.
- ✓ Reforesting portions of the High Andes with more than 500,000 endangered, native *Polylepis* trees and other species with the support of the Moore Foundation and the Global Conservation Fund, and established enduring, working partnerships with more than two dozen indigenous or local communities to

ensure natural resources are protected or harvested sustainably. Among the beneficiaries of this massive reforestation effort are the endangered Royal Cinclodes, Ash-breasted Tit-tyrant, and White-browed Tit-spinetail.

- ✓ Helping indigenous communities gain legal title to their lands, in exchange for the creation of Private Conservation Areas.
- ✓ Developing a \$2 million *Polylepis* forest endowment with critical funding and support from the Global Conservation Fund and FONDAM that will provide a source of long-term funding for conservation of highly endangered *Polylepis* ecosystems in Peru.

ABC and its partners are committed to building on all of these successes in the next phase of this multi-national, landscape-level initiative to protect threatened birds and ecosystems in the tropical Andes and to engage local communities as stewards and beneficiaries of these globally significant ecosystems.



Planting seedlings at Abra Malaga. Constantino Auca, ECOAN, 2007

*“ABC’s contributions to conservation in the Andes have been impressive. Over the last six years, with support from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, they have led successful programs to protect more than 500,000 acres of threatened forests and ecosystems benefiting dozens of endangered species. Their ingenuity and determination in getting the job done are inspiring.”*

— Steve McCormick, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

Background photo: Peruvian forests preserved with the help of the Moore Foundation. Photo by Mike Parr, 2008

# 2010 Supporters

We are honored to acknowledge the individuals, foundations, businesses, and others who have donated to support ABC's work. While space constraints prevent us from listing all of our donors, we are sincerely grateful for each member and every gift. We would also like to thank those who gave anonymously through the United Way or Combined Federal Campaign.

Peregrine Falcon: ClipArt.com



Blue denotes Falcon Club member

The Falcon Club is ABC's pivotal group of members who donate unrestricted gifts of \$1,000 or more each year. The Falcon Club is a cornerstone in the success of all our bird conservation programs and projects. A very special thank you to ABC's board members for their many contributions and introductions to other major supporters.

## \$500,000+

Leon Levy Foundation  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

## \$100,000+

Blue Moon Fund  
Bobolink Foundation  
Global Conservation Fund  
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation  
David and Lucile Packard Foundation  
The Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust  
Wolf Creek Charitable Foundation  
Constance and Jeff Woodman  
World Land Trust

## \$50,000+

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| James Brumm, Chair       | Jonathan Franzen           | Christine Sant (until 9.2010) |
| Kenneth Berlin           | Jennifer Haverkamp         | Larry Selzer                  |
| Martha Boudreau          | Carolyn Hendricks          | William Sheehan               |
| Warren Cooke, Vice Chair | (from 1.2011)              | Marybeth Sollins              |
| John Day, Treasurer      | Nicholas Lapham            | Steve Thal                    |
| Richard Eales            | William Leighty            | Nancy Weiss                   |
| Victor Emanuel           | Walter Matia, Secretary    | Stuart White                  |
| George Fenwick           | Richard Raines, Vice Chair | Jeff Woodman                  |
|                          | Jeff Rusinow (from 1.2011) |                               |

# Staff

- George Fenwick, President  
 Bob Altman, Northern Pacific Rainforest BCR Coordinator  
 Hugo Arnal, Director of International Sustainable Conservation (until 3.2010)  
 Elizabeth Brenner, Director of Membership  
 Dan Casey, Northern Rockies BCR Coordinator  
 Susannah Casey, GIS Technician - Northern Rockies  
 Jenna Chenoweth, Membership Coordinator  
 Danny Cunningham, Grants and Finance Administrator  
 Tomeka Davis, Communications and Program Assistant  
 Chris Farmer, Science Coordinator for Reintroduction of Hawaiian Birds  
 Rita Fenwick, Vice President of Development  
 Todd Fearer, Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture Science Coordinator  
 Jane Fitzgerald, Central Hardwoods Joint Venture Coordinator  
 Michael Fry, Director of Conservation Advocacy  
 Kelly Fuller, Wind Campaign Coordinator  
 Jessica Hardesty Norris, Seabird Program Director  
 Larry Heggemann, Central Hardwoods Joint Venture Conservation Officer (from 3.2011)  
 Steve Holmer, Director of the Bird Conservation Alliance  
 Jim Giocomo, Oaks and Prairies Joint Venture Coordinator  
 Mary Gustafson, Rio Grande Joint Venture Coordinator  
 Robert Johns, Director of Public Relations  
 Todd Jones-Farrand, Central Hardwoods Joint Venture Science Coordinator (until 2.2011)  
 Sara Lara, Vice President for International Programs  
 Ed Laurent, Bird Conservation Institute Science Coordinator  
 Leah Lavin, Development Officer  
 Anne Law, Deputy Director of Conservation Advocacy  
 Daniel Lebbin, Conservation Biologist  
 Erin Lebbin, Development Officer  
 Mary Liles, Program Development Officer



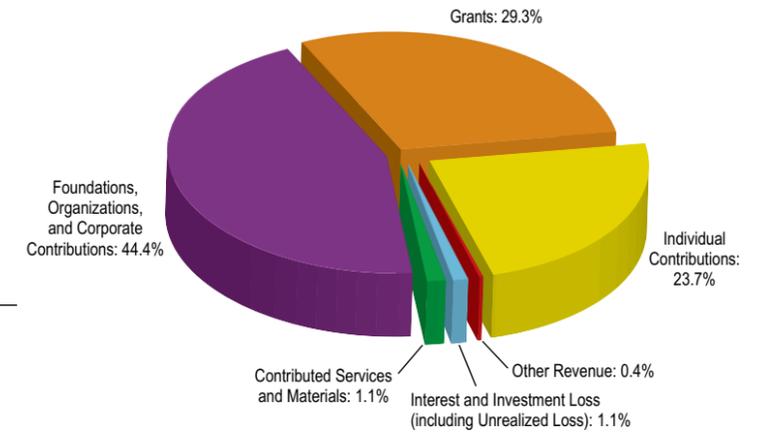
Fork-tailed Flycatcher: Greg Lavaty

- Casey Lott, Coastal and Waterways Program Coordinator  
 Moira McKernan, Pesticides and Birds Program Director  
 Jack Morrison, Planned Giving Director/Major Donor Officer  
 Merrie Morrison, Vice President for Operations  
 Tami O'Brien, Assistant Director, Development (until 6.2010)  
 Michael Parr, Vice President  
 David Pashley, Vice President for Conservation Science  
 Gemma Radko, Communications and Media Manager  
 Andrew Rothman, International Conservation Officer  
 Darin Schroeder, Vice President of Conservation Advocacy  
 Christine Sheppard, Bird Collisions Campaign Manager  
 Gavin Shire, Vice President of Communications  
 Benjamin Skolnik, Conservation Projects Specialist  
 Brian Smith, Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture Coordinator  
 Judy Szczepaniak, Office Administrator  
 Beth Wallace, Administrative and Program Assistant  
 George Wallace, Vice President for Oceans and Islands  
 David Wiedenfeld, Conservation Science Specialist  
 David Younkman, Vice President/Chief Conservation Officer  
 Dariusz Zdziebkowski, IT and Website Coordinator

# 2010 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

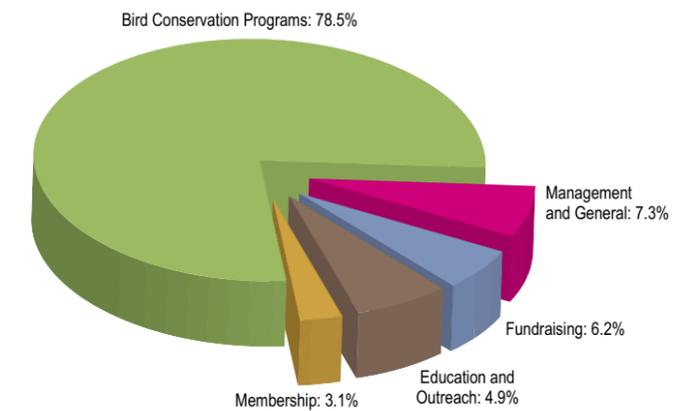
## ANNUAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Foundation, Organization, and Corporate Contributions	\$ 3,825,866
Grants	\$ 2,525,554
Individual Contributions	\$ 2,043,273
Interest and Investment Loss (incl. Unrealized Loss)	\$ 99,429
Contributed Services and Materials	\$ 94,652
Other Revenue	\$ 32,456
<b>Total Annual Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 8,621,230</b>



## ANNUAL EXPENSES

<b>Program</b>	
Bird Conservation Programs	\$ 6,631,709
Education and Outreach	\$ 410,628
Membership	\$ 261,109
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>\$ 7,303,446</b>
<b>Supporting Services</b>	
Management and General	\$ 617,166
Fund raising	\$ 525,774
<b>Total Supporting Services</b>	<b>\$ 1,142,940</b>
<b>Total Annual Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 8,446,386</b>
<b>Net Assets at December 31, 2010</b>	<b>\$ 3,898,856</b>



Percentage figures on these charts are rounded to the nearest decimal

American Bird Conservancy's financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2010, were audited by the Certified Public Accounting firm of Gelman, Rosenberg, and Freedman. A copy of ABC's complete financial statements can be obtained by contacting American Bird Conservancy, P.O. Box 249, The Plains, VA 20198.

Rufous Hummingbird: Glen Tepke

American Bird Conservancy  
P.O. Box 249  
The Plains, VA 20198  
www.abcbirds.org  
abc@abcbirds.org  
540-253-5780 • 888-247-3624



Yellow-faced Parrot: Alonso Quevedo Gil

## ABC's Legacy Circle — *A shared vision for the future of bird conservation*

In 1998 there were only 81 Yellow-eared Parrots in existence. As you have read in this Annual Report, there are now more than 1,000. This is a direct result of years of conservation efforts by American Bird Conservancy and our partner, Fundación ProAves.

You can help ensure future bird conservation successes by including ABC in your estate plans and joining our Legacy Circle.

If you haven't already made a bequest to ABC, won't you consider one now? Your bequest will mean that there will always be a champion for native birds and their habitats in the Americas.

**For more information on ABC's Legacy Circle, please contact Jack Morrison, Planned Giving Director, at [jmorrison@abcbirds.org](mailto:jmorrison@abcbirds.org) or at 540-253-5780.**

### ***Here's why some of our Legacy Circle members have made this commitment:***

***"ABC is a nimble, results-oriented group which has earned our respect and our financial support."***

— Kathy Burger and Glen Gerada

***"It is a wonderful way for people like us, with a fixed income, to give to an organization that so reliably delivers conservation results for birds."***

— Steve and Britt Thal