



2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Board Chair Larry Selzer

Message *from the* Chairman

Dear ABC Friends and Supporters:

Birding was among my earliest windows into the natural world. Ten years old, under-dressed for a Christmas bird count in Connecticut, desperately trying to hold steady a pair of 10x50 Tasco binoculars that easily weighed as much as I did. But I was hooked, and I have spent my entire working career in conservation.

Very few things have brought me as much joy and satisfaction as becoming part of the American Bird Conservancy family. I was introduced to George and Rita almost 20 years ago by a shared board member, KiKu Hanes. Somehow she knew we were kindred spirits, willing to try anything to conserve that which we loved the most.

Years later I had the honor of serving on the board of ABC. I learned firsthand about the incredible staff, the dedicated members, and the amazing partners that work with ABC every day to protect birds all across the Americas. I felt the rush that came from a new reserve being established, a new legal or legislative victory finally coming to fruition, or a new program being launched. The results were incredible.

Now, I am humbled to serve the organization again, this time as Chair of the Board. As George and Rita end their run as creators and leaders of this incredible organization, with a legacy unmatched anywhere in conservation, I look forward with the same nervous energy I had when I was first invited to join the board. There is so much that needs to be done, and no time to waste. But with the great team we have—board, staff, members, donors, partners—we will build on what George and Rita have achieved.

We will bring back the birds. The direction is clear, the energy abundant, and the passion undiminished. Thank you all for all you have done for birds, and all that I know we will do together in the months and years ahead.

With excitement for the future,

Larry Selzer
Board Chair, ABC

American Bird Conservancy is dedicated to conserving birds and their habitats throughout the Americas. With an emphasis on achieving results and working in partnership, we take on the greatest problems facing birds today, innovating and building on rapid advancements in science to halt extinctions, protect habitats, eliminate threats, and build capacity for bird conservation.

abcbirds.org

Message *from the* President



ABC President George Fenwick

Dear ABC Family:

One day last September, my wife, Rita, Vice President for Development and I sat down to discuss our future. After 23 years with ABC, we realized that ABC could grow, prosper, and benefit from new ideas, and that we were ready for a change. Thus, our time with ABC ends very soon. ABC is prepared, and we expect a seamless transition; continued, unmatched conservation results; and cost-effective programs.

We want to thank Warren Cooke for his steady hand at the helm as Chair of ABC in recent years. ABC truly thrived under his leadership. Larry Selzer has succeeded Warren and we expect no less from him. Larry's knowledge, intelligence, and humor will be valuable assets in guiding ABC through transition and onward to many great, new things for bird conservation.

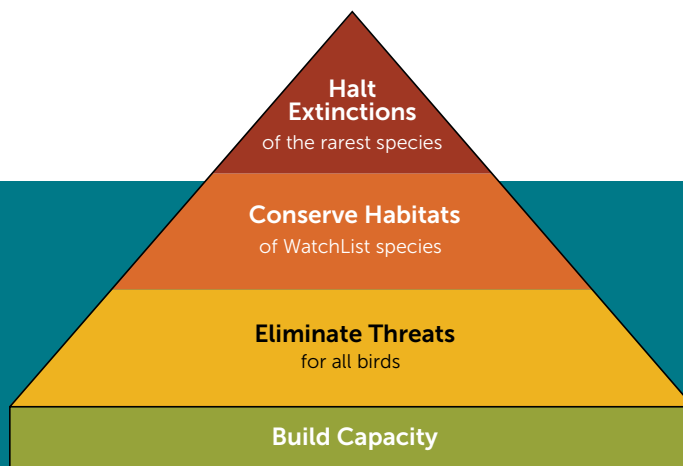
ABC's extraordinary success cannot be fully understood without recognizing the passion and concern of ABC's board and of its members throughout our history. What a wonderful cohort of dedicated and helpful individuals they have been. Thank you all. And, of course, ABC's staff remains the best in the business. We feel fortunate to have shared this time with them.

Finally, Rita and I thank all of ABC's members and friends who have sustained and bolstered our work through the (almost) quarter century of conservation. I wish I had enough space to name names here. Your generosity and loyalty through the years have made all the difference. Thank you, and we hope our paths can cross again, down some marshy trail looking for a furtive, marvelous bird.

With a fond farewell,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George H. Fenwick".

George Fenwick
President, ABC



ABC Conservation Framework

We will bring back the birds.
The direction is clear, the
energy abundant, and the
passion undiminished.

HALTING EXTINCTIONS

The rarest birds require focused and immediate action, and that's what ABC and partners provided in more than 60 projects across ten countries in 2016. Creating and supporting management of reserves at carefully selected sites, we help to reverse species' spiral toward extinction. This work can take years, but breakthroughs do occur: the doubling of the population of Grey-breasted Parakeets in northeast Brazil, thanks to the successful nest-box program managed by our partner Aquasis, is one such breakthrough.

AZE's Global Reach

Halting extinctions is one of ABC's specialties and is the pinnacle of our strategic conservation framework. An important element of our approach is the Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE), a joint initiative of more than 90 biodiversity conservation organizations from around the world. Groups from India and Indonesia to Mauritius and Madagascar—all coming together over a shared concern for the future of our planet's biodiversity and a desire to help in this vital global endeavor.

ABC was a founder of AZE and continues to chair the Alliance, which so far has identified 587 sites worldwide that must be effectively protected to prevent the extinction of 920 of the world's most threatened species from a variety of taxonomic groups, including birds and mammals.

The identification of sites—the last remaining refuges for one or more Endangered or Critically Endangered species—is just the beginning. The work that must ensue, if AZE is to be effective in halting extinctions, is to draw global attention and support to these areas.

Through the Alliance, ABC engages large development banks and lending institutions to factor AZE species and sites into project decision-making to preserve the most rare and endangered species on the planet.

ABC is also helping governments include protection of AZE sites in their National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans and advises on how to allocate funds to implement them.

These plans are being developed by the 196 countries that have signed and ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)—a global agreement to achieve targeted biodiversity goals.

The Alliance for Zero Extinction is a joint initiative of over 90 biodiversity conservation organizations around the world.

By prioritizing conservation dollars for AZE sites, countries can meet their obligations as parties to the Convention. To date, 19 countries have included AZE in their national plans and we anticipate more in the near future.

Forming national AZE alliances and addressing threats at the site level are additional critical steps for ensuring the survival of the Grey-breasted Parakeet,

Araripe Manakin, Long-whiskered Owlet, and many more AZE birds and other species.

When does the work end? For ABC, it's when we have well-managed reserves throughout the Americas that maintain or increase populations of all target bird species and that are financially self-sufficient. And we are well on our way.

Currently supporting ABC's global work on AZE is the Global Environment Facility—we are grateful to our partners on this grant: United Nations Environment Programme and BirdLife International.



Grey-breasted Parakeet chicks in nest box by Fabio Nunes



Building a nest box by Aguas



Bay-breasted Cuckoo by Cesar Abril



David Borré, of ProNatura Noreste (PNE) at the Loma del Gorrión Reserve. ABC supports PNE in the management of this reserve, an AZE site for Worthen's Sparrow. Photo by Aditi Desai, 2017.

"I have had the chance to work with ABC through the partnership that CONABIO maintains with them for the identification of new candidate Alliance for Zero Extinction species and sites in Mexico. ABC is a great organization to work with, always helpful, knowledgeable, and available. Our partnership has been very successful so far, and undoubtedly this is, at least in part, due to ABC's genuine interest in it."

— Dr. Esther Quintero

National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (CONABIO)
Government of Mexico

HALTING EXTINCTIONS: Highlights

- Brazil's stunning Araripe Manakin numbers fewer than 800 individuals and lacks sufficient breeding sites, so the 2016 **acquisition of 170 acres of habitat** is a big step forward. The property connects with the Oasis Araripe Reserve—managed by our partner Aquasis—to the Araripe National Forest and doubles the land under protection for the species.
- **Over 53,000 acres of land in northern Peru** are under consideration for national Private Conservation Area status, thanks to our partner ECOAN, local communities, and support from ABC. This step brings us closer to realizing our ambitious plan to link nine existing protected areas in one **contiguous, 848,241-acre landscape** that includes the headwaters of the Amazon River and habitat for an array of species—including the Long-whiskered Owlet and Ochre-fronted Antpitta, Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) species found nowhere else.
- The rare El Oro Parakeet **gained 233 more acres of protected cloud-forest habitat** within the Buenaventura Reserve, thanks to a land purchase by ABC, our Ecuadorian partner Fundación Jocotoco, and World Land Trust. The cavity-nesting parakeet was discovered in 1980 and is limited to the Andes of southwest Ecuador, where only a few hundred birds are known to exist.
- A first-of-its-kind conservation effort continued in Hawai'i in 2016, when **eight Newell's Shearwater chicks were translocated to Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge**. The shearwaters, along with ten Hawaiian Petrel chicks translocated the prior year, are protected by a predator-proof fence, eliminating a major threat to the seabirds' survival. Representing the only fully protected colony of federally listed seabirds in the Hawaiian Islands, the project was made possible by the Kauai Endangered Seabird Recovery Project, Pacific Rim Conservation, the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources' Division of Forestry and Wildlife, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and ABC, along with significant funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Meet ABC Staff:

The fascination with nature that fuels **Amy Upgren's** career began with a childhood spent exploring the woods, streams, and ponds near her home in New England. Her commitment to preventing extinction in particular dates back to a grade school field trip that she remembers clearly: "I saw a stuffed replica of a dodo bird at the Yale Peabody Museum, and was shocked to learn that a species had gone extinct in recent times," Amy says.

Today, Amy is ABC's Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) Program Officer. She works regularly with conservationists throughout the Americas to build strong partnerships with them and their governments. For example, last year, Amy worked with Mexico's CONABIO, the institution in charge of compiling the country's biodiversity data, to update the national list of AZE species and sites. "I love my job," she says. "Working toward zero extinctions is an exciting and inspiring goal."



Photo by Wendy Willis, 2016

CONSERVING HABITATS

Whether it's Wood Thrushes or wood-warblers, fewer migratory birds are seen each year. To reverse this trend, ABC created our BirdScapes approach in 2016, bringing a big vision, long-term commitment, and conservation action to habitats across the full life-cycle of target birds. To start, ABC and partners have identified more than 50 BirdScapes that provide breeding, wintering, and stopover habitat for priority species—places where we continue to ramp up and connect our conservation results throughout the hemisphere.

BirdScapes for Golden-winged Warbler

Golden-winged Warblers weigh the equivalent of nine pennies, and yet these migratory miracles find their way each spring over thousands of miles from Central America to the Appalachian Mountains or the Great Lakes. Too often these days, though, the young, diverse forests they need for breeding are missing from the landscape—a prime cause of the species' overall population decline of 66 percent over the past 50 years.

We're moving with urgency to reverse the bird's decline, leading a process to restore forest to optimal Golden-wing habitat across several BirdScapes. In 2016, ABC's Great Lakes team completed a two-year project in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan that restored more than 7,500 acres of forest on public and private lands. This acreage adds to the approximately 12,000 acres of forest protected or restored in these areas over the last five years in the Great Lakes. To ensure that the warblers are breeding successfully in the restored habitat, 82 landowner properties are being monitored for Golden-winged Warblers through projects with Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Creating breeding habitat is vital, but our BirdScapes approach also ensures that Golden-winged Warblers find suitable habitat when they again head south. We have identified BirdScapes that support wintering Golden-wings in Guatemala,

Honduras, and Nicaragua—places where we are preparing to substantially scale up ongoing habitat conservation work with local partners. For example, working with FUNDAECO in Guatemala, we're developing bird-friendly economic alternatives to cattle ranching and large-scale, unsustainable agriculture. With hardwood tree plantations and bird-friendly crops such as black pepper and cardamom, we aim to help local people improve their economic conditions, which can also deter forest clearing.

Creating breeding habitat is vital, but our BirdScapes approach also ensures that Golden-winged Warblers find suitable habitat when they again head south.

As for places between the breeding and wintering grounds: exciting new data from our partners at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Colombian group SELVA are showing where birds congregate on migration; the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta in Colombia is emerging as one such place. As we incorporate this new information into our BirdScapes work, we'll be able to take action to conserve land in these vital places. That's what BirdScapes are about: delivering on-the-ground habitat conservation where birds need it most.

We thank our many partners for their support of our Great Lakes forest restoration work, including the State of Minnesota Outdoor Heritage Fund, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and its refuges; USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (Regional Conservation Partnership Program) and Chippewa National Forest.





"The Pennsylvania Natural Resources Conservation Service has been proud to partner with ABC through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program on the Cerulean Warbler Appalachian Forestland Enhancement Project. Through this partnership we are assisting non-industrial private forestland owners and operators to improve forest habitat on approximately 7,000 acres in Pennsylvania in order to benefit Cerulean Warblers."

— Molly Hippensteel
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

CONSERVING HABITATS: Highlights

- In Oregon, ABC helped Columbia Land Trust secure the **final 115 acres of a key 418-acre wildlife corridor** that supports work in ponderosa pine forests and protects a stronghold population of Lewis's Woodpecker, a rapidly declining species. We also petitioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list the Oregon Vesper Sparrow (down to just 10 percent of its 1968 population) under the Endangered Species Act, as well as to provide support for conservation in prairie-oak habitats for the threatened Streaked Horned Lark.
- In the rugged forests of the Klamath Mountains in southwestern Oregon, ABC launched a project to **enhance forest management for birds on private lands**, partnering with the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), SFI Project Participants including Weyerhaeuser and Hancock Timber Resources Group, Klamath Bird Observatory, and the National Council on Air and Stream Improvement. More than 15 bird species of special concern, including the Rufous Hummingbird, will benefit.
- ABC worked at 27 sites in Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, and Florida to **protect and manage almost 5,000 acres of critical breeding habitat** for our four priority species on the Gulf Coast: Black Skimmer, Least Tern, and Snowy and Wilson's Plovers. Preliminary results point to a successful breeding season for all four species as well as Common Nighthawk. Looking ahead, we will be expanding our work in 2017 to include Piping Plover and Red Knot, thanks to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Program grant.
- With World Land Trust and our Guatemalan partner FUNDAECO, ABC helped to secure a **1,672-acre parcel of threatened Caribbean rainforest**—the single-largest remnant of lowland tropical rainforest remaining in Caribbean Guatemala. The resulting Tapon Creek Nature Reserve connects two existing protected areas totaling nearly 20,000 acres and provides vital winter habitat for migratory birds such as Kentucky Warbler and Wood Thrush.

Meet ABC Staff:



Photo courtesy of Shawn Graff

"In the summer, it was not uncommon for me to run outdoors after breakfast and not return home until dark," says **Shawn Graff**, recollecting his childhood spent roaming the woods, catching frogs, and climbing trees. That early love of nature and wild things remained with him as an avocation, until Wisconsin's Ozaukee Washington Land Trust (OWLT) asked him if he would serve as their executive director. "I took them up on their offer and never looked back."

After 13 years with OWLT, Shawn brought his skills to ABC in 2016. As Vice President, Great Lakes Region, Shawn works with partners to identify and restore essential habitat, including the site in Wisconsin he visited during his first week with ABC. "Within minutes we heard *bee buzz-buzz* and then a male Golden-winged Warbler appeared on a tree a few feet from us. That's why we do this work."

ELIMINATING THREATS

"Billions" is an almost unimaginable number, yet it represents the number of birds that die unnecessarily each year in the United States due to a handful of human-caused threats. ABC works urgently to find and implement solutions to these hazards, including collisions with windows and wind turbines; free-roaming domestic cats; and use of deadly pesticides. Year after year, we make strides to reduce the death toll, educating people about solutions, influencing policy, and, when all else fails, taking legal action.

Standing Up for Piping Plovers

With sandy beaches and summertime crowds, Jones Beach State Park looks like many other parks along New York's coastline. But two things, at least, set it apart. It's home to breeding Piping Plovers, a species listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act. And it's home to two shanty-towns of feral cats subsisting in "Trap, Neuter, Release" (TNR) colonies within the park's borders—and within roaming distance of those breeding birds.

At ABC, many of us love cats as pets. But when it comes to endangered species like the Piping Plover, we're fiercely protective. After 30 years of intensive conservation effort, the Piping Plover population on the Atlantic Coast has slowly climbed from just 790 pairs in the 1980s to 1,850 pairs today. Every one of those pairs and their young is important to the species' continued recovery.

ABC is known as the group that will take action on behalf of birds even when the matter is controversial, and this was no exception. After the state declined to remove the cats (citing pressure from feral cat advocates) we sued the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation in March 2016.

Our argument: continued support of the cats' presence in proximity to the plovers creates the likelihood of harm to the birds. Further, it's a violation of the Endangered Species Act.

Together, free-roaming
and feral cats kill an
average of 2.4 billion
birds every year in the
United States.

We take on this challenging work because domestic cats are now the greatest direct human-caused threat to birds. Feral cats number 30 to 80 million in the United States alone, not including "owned" cats.

Together, free-roaming and feral cats kill an average of 2.4 billion birds every year in the United States. And now, the abandonment of cats into TNR colonies near or on public lands has become socially acceptable and even sanctioned in some cities.

Fortunately, it now appears that the Piping Plovers of Jones Beach will have their day in court, as a judge overturned a motion by the State to dismiss the case. If successful, this lawsuit will give pause to other city officials who are thinking about sanctioning TNR within their jurisdictions.

ABC is grateful to the DJ&T Foundation, Lynde Uihlein, Warren and Cathy Cooke, and the Frances V.R. Seebe Charitable Trust for their generous support of our Cats Indoors Program.





Cat with Hooded Warbler by forespath-SS

"I first discovered ABC when I founded our nonprofit cat shelter back in 2002. Concerned about the plight of both homeless outdoor cats and the environment and its wildlife, I was delighted to discover your Cats Indoors Program. Thank you for participating in such an important issue using science and facts to make rational decisions for the health and sustainability of the planet."

— Gail Mihocko
Founder, Project Cat

ELIMINATING THREATS: Highlights

- After a thorough analysis of U.S. wind energy facilities, ABC released a 2016 report on the worst proposed and existing projects from the perspective of bird conservation. The ten selected projects illustrate the risks of poor siting—for example, within migratory corridors and breeding areas of endangered species—and the failure of the federal government’s voluntary guidelines to protect American birds from large-scale wind development.
- We worked with partners to introduce **legislation in Hawai’i** that would prohibit the feeding of feral cats in the state known as the “bird extinction capital of the world,” due to the profusion of non-native species such as cats. We also helped partners in Virginia, New York, Illinois, and Delaware defeat legislation supporting Trap, Neuter, Release programs, which fail to reduce cat populations in spite of advocates’ claims to the contrary. And we coordinated a ground-breaking summit of experts to develop a more comprehensive understanding of *Toxoplasma gondii*, a parasite spread by cats that causes serious disease in humans and wildlife.
- The U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Pilot Credit 55 on bird collision deterrence has become the most frequently used of dozens of credits in the LEED Pilot Library. Introduced by a team led by ABC in 2011, the credit provides an incentive for using **bird-friendly design strategies**. In addition, in the last 12 months more than 400 architects and other design professionals have completed ABC’s class for LEED and American Institute of Architects continuing education credit.
- Thanks to advocacy efforts by ABC and others, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) called on its field offices to **cap, close, remove, or screen vertical pipes on BLM-managed lands**. Open pipes, such as those used to mark mining claims, are death traps for hundreds of thousands of birds annually, including Mountain Bluebird.

Meet ABC Staff:

Steve Holmer, ABC’s Vice President of Policy, is accustomed to fighting the long fight. “The Federal Communications Commission just provided updated guidance to tower operators that enable them to switch to flashing lights. That took ten years of effort.” That success, following a decade of work, means Steve and others can now reach out to tower owners and work with them to reduce their costs while simultaneously reducing bird collisions.

It takes a certain kind of commitment to continually work on projects with timelines of a decade or more. For Steve, that dedication was born on a trip west in 1989. “That trip opened my eyes to the extent and intensity of development happening on public lands and national forests. I’ve been working to protect habitats ever since.”



Photo courtesy of ABC, 2011

ABC Gets Results...

- Countries that include AZE goals in their national biodiversity planning: **19**
- Acres protected in 14 countries in the Americas: **993,700**
- Trees and shrubs planted: **5,037,000**
- Bird species benefited in the Americas: **2,454**
- Joint Ventures with ABC staff: **9**

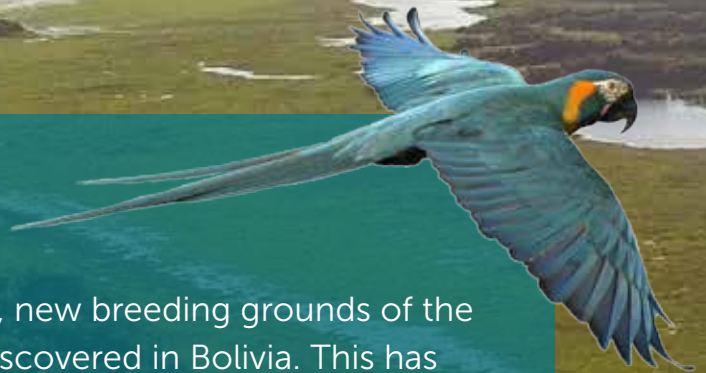
ABC serves on the management boards of nine Joint Ventures in the U.S. that are pursuing an "all birds, all habitat" mission. ABC employs staff at more Joint Ventures (JVs) than any other organization, outside of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Our partners in these JVs have restored, enhanced, and protected more than 500,000 acres of vital habitat.

FIELD Notes

Thanks to ABC-backed expeditions, new breeding grounds of the Blue-throated Macaw have been discovered in Bolivia. This has long been a mystery—where the macaws go after they spend several months roosting at the Barba Azul Nature Reserve.

ABC supported a study in 2016 to better inform our full life-cycle conservation strategy for the Golden-winged Warbler. Geolocators were attached to **146 wintering Golden-winged Warblers** in nine focal conservation areas in Central America. Twenty of the geolocators have been recovered, revealing their migratory routes.

Stay tuned to ABC's website for more results from the field!



Here's Where We Are

➤ Effective solutions developed to address bird collisions with glass: **18**

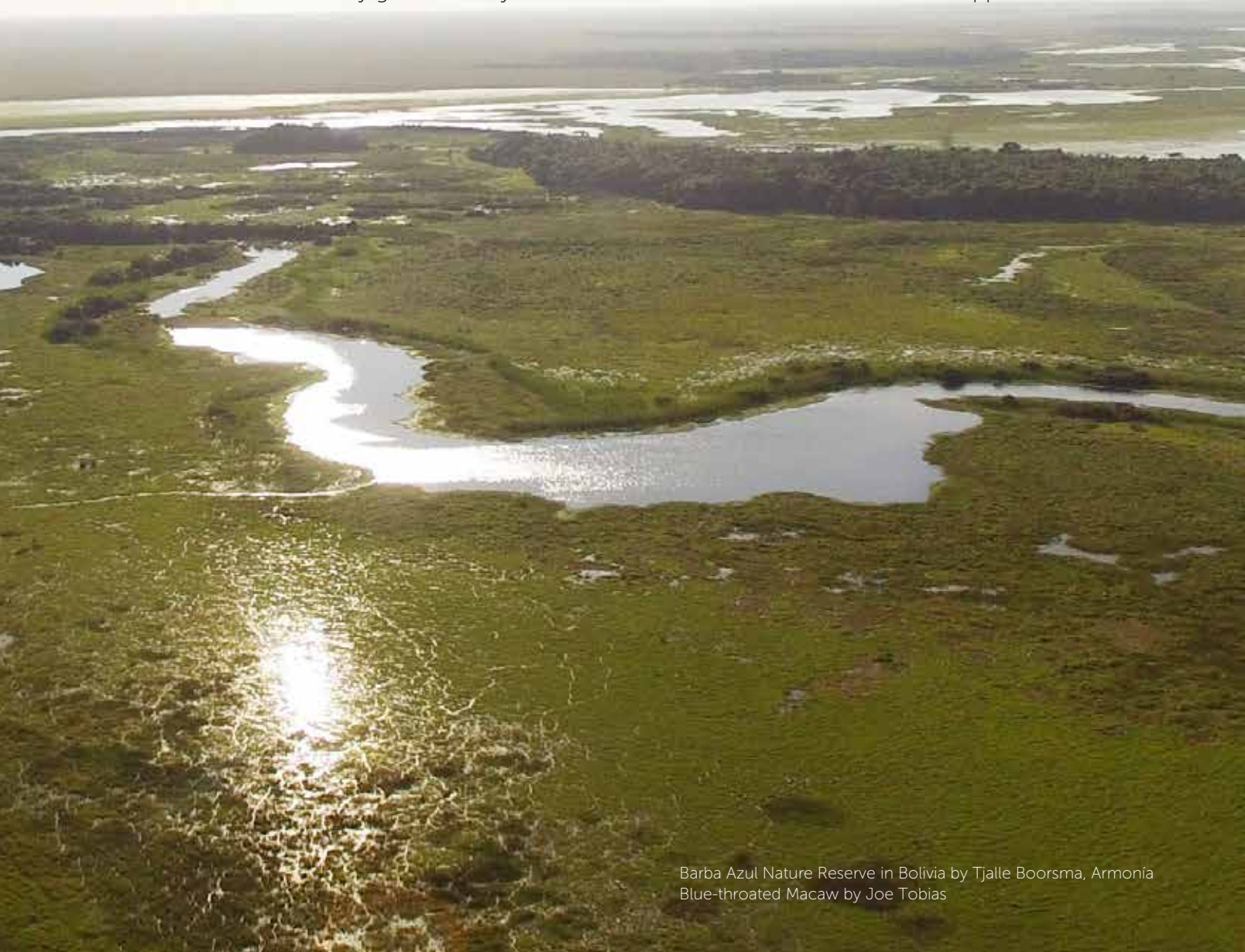
ABC continues to lead scientific research to find or develop a range of scientifically proven, effective, affordable, and aesthetically suitable solutions to birds hitting windows in homes and buildings. To date, this had led to 18 products on the market that are effective in preventing 70% or more bird collisions with glass.

➤ Pesticide registrations blocked or restricted: **30**

➤ Responses to Action Alerts in 2016: **37,224**

➤ ABC members/supporters: **8,931**

This number steadily grows each year; in 2005 ABC had 5,600 members and supporters.



BUILDING CAPACITY

The whole is greater than the sum of its parts, and that's why ABC actively strengthens our partners' ability to deliver bird conservation results. In 2016, through our partnership with the March Conservation Fund and the Jeniam Foundation, we helped 14 Latin American groups become stronger financially, organizationally, and programmatically. We also brought together the expertise and resources needed to advance bird conservation in other ways, such as through our leadership in the Bird Conservation Alliance, Migratory Bird Joint Ventures, and Alliance for Zero Extinction.

Protecting Birds in Perpetuity

Among our proudest moments are when, with ABC support, one of our Latin American partners creates a globally significant reserve for a rare bird species. Over time, ABC has invested more than \$30 million in 22 partners to help them purchase or protect bird habitats in 14 countries—a total of almost one million acres.

This substantial investment is one of the reasons why we make it a priority to build the capacity of our partners and their resources. We know that land purchase is really just the first step. To prevent land squatting or other illegal activity, manpower and infrastructure is required. Often some type of habitat restoration is also needed, along with steady collaboration with neighboring landowners to address land management practices such as the use of fire that could impact the reserve. Partners must establish sustainable funding sources to finance these long-term needs.

In spite of its importance, it can be difficult to find financial backing for capacity building and land stewardship, especially for Latin American partners with few funding sources in their own countries. But in the fall of 2015, March Conservation Fund took the extraordinary step of launching, with ABC, an annual grant program called the Latin

American Reserve Stewardship Initiative (LARSI) to measurably improve the ability of nonprofit conservation organizations to protect declining native birds and their habitats in perpetuity.

ABC provides more than \$400,000 each year to partners to fund actions that increase institutional capacity and financially sustain reserves and bird conservation over the long-term.

Together with support from the Jeniam Foundation, LARSI enables us to provide more than \$400,000 a year to partners. Last year these funds supported staff positions, fundraising initiatives and development of new project ideas that generated a total of **\$1,794,756 in funds for our partners.**

What our partners really appreciate about LARSI is that ABC's team comes along with the funding. Trust is built over many years, and we are proud to have earned the confidence of our partners, enabling us to work together to overcome challenges. Virtually every ABC division, from Finance to Communications, provides some kind of training, expertise, materials, or contacts to one or more LARSI partners to guarantee that each grant is successful. Together, we ensure that birds are protected well into the future.

We're grateful to the organizations who have provided funding for organizational capacity building: Jeniam Foundation, March Conservation Fund, blue moon fund, and Beneficia Foundation.



fundación de conservación
JOCOTOCO

www.fjocotoco.org



ABC staff (left, VP of International Dan Lebbin and International Program Officer Wendy Willis) visiting partner Fundación Jocotoco and affiliate JocoTours (Rocío Merino, center; Eliana Montenegro; Michelle Hidrobo; and Paola Villalba) in Ecuador, 2016. Photo courtesy of Fundación Jocotoco.



Cattle at Barba Azul Nature Reserve. Photo by Shoaib Tareen.

"In the name of Armonía, I want to thank ABC for continuing to fund us through the LARSI program. Our project is part of a comprehensive plan that combines birdwatching tourism, responsible cattle ranching and the establishment of a biological station to make our reserve self-sustaining. Most of the successes we made through the last years in the Barba Azul Nature Reserve were achieved thanks to your support."

— Rodrigo W. Soria Auza
Executive Director, Asociación Armonía

BUILDING CAPACITY: Highlights

- ABC and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology joined forces to launch “**Science to Action**,” a partnership aimed at reversing decades of population declines for migratory birds in the Americas. Bringing together the Cornell Lab's cutting-edge science and ABC's on-the-ground approach to bird conservation, this joint effort represents new hope for hundreds of declining species that journey each spring and fall between their breeding grounds in North America and wintering grounds in Latin America and the Caribbean. Together, the Science to Action partnership will leverage data and resources from the Cornell Lab to refine and prioritize ABC's conservation strategies, including ABC BirdScapes; improve conservation of migratory stopover sites; use citizen science such as eBird to monitor and evaluate the success of ABC projects; and more.
- In ongoing efforts to support and strengthen our partners, **ABC hosted two Latin American partners**—ECOAN from Peru and Asociación Armonía from Bolivia—for a workshop on fundraising and management. As a result of a meeting with the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund, Armonía received a generous grant for *Polylepis* reforestation and ECOAN for protected area management and ecotourism development in northern Peru to benefit the Long-whiskered Owllet, Marvelous Spatuletail, and many other species.
- We supported **infrastructure improvements** at many of the reserves in our network in 2016, including renovating the headquarters at the Oasis Araripe Reserve in Brazil, adding new rooms and a dining facility to the Huembo Reserve in Peru, constructing a canopy tower and new lodging at Lomas del Sierpe and Cerro Osa Reserves in Costa Rica, and creating a new hummingbird attraction at Buenaventura Reserve in Ecuador.

Meet ABC Staff:



Photo courtesy of Aditi Desai

Growing up in rural New Jersey, Aditi Desai, ABC's Director of Multimedia, spent her summers picking wild blackberries and flowers. A proud member of her school's Bug Club, she was inspired by the nature in her backyard, and releasing her pet worm back into the wild was her first conservation action.

It wasn't until she lived in India and watched the documentary "Shores of Silence" that she decided to combine her love of nature with storytelling. Hearing about the film's impact on public policy from the director forever changed the way she viewed media. "I knew then that that storytelling could be a tool for social change," she says. Today, she works toward that change every day by crafting stories that raise awareness about bird conservation issues and promoting the work of staff and partners. See our Youtube channel to check out Aditi's latest work!



Aplomado Falcon by Alan Wilson

2016

Falcon Club *and* Project Supporters

We are honored to acknowledge the individuals, foundations, businesses, and others who have supported 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 (CFC #12048).

The Falcon Club is our pivotal group of members who donate unrestricted gifts of \$1,000 or more each year. Members of this group (denoted in **purple**) collectively form a cornerstone in the success of all of our bird conservation programs and projects.

\$500,000+

The Estate of Jane Krusman
National Fish and Wildlife
Foundation
The Else Perkins-Martin Trust

\$100,000+

Anonymous (1)
BirdLife International
Bobolink Foundation
David and Patricia Davidson
Dick and Nancy Eales
Jonathan Franzen
Leon Levy Foundation
March Conservation Fund
New Venture Fund
David and Lucile Packard
Foundation
Wallace Genetic Foundation
The Robert W. Wilson
Charitable Trust
Wolf Creek Charitable
Foundation

\$50,000+ (Gyr Falcon)

Anonymous (3)
Colcom Foundation
Warren and Cathy Cooke
DJ & T Foundation
The Dorrance Family Foundation
Barbara Fried
David Harrison and Joyce Millen
IUCN National Committee of The
Netherlands
Jeniam Foundation
The Edward K. Love
Conservation Foundation
The Estate of R. James Macaleer
The John D. and Catherine T.
MacArthur Foundation
Shoab Tareen and Cathy Filgas
Lynde Uihlein
Lynn and Stuart White

\$25,000+ (Peregrine Falcon)

Anonymous (7)
Patricia Bauman and John
Landrum-Bryant
Kathy Bollhoefer
The Ceres Trust
Sarah K. de Coizart Article
TENTH Perpetual
Charitable Trust
George and Rita Fenwick
Gulf Coast Bird Observa-
tory—Tropical Forest
Forever Fund
Robert J. Kleberg, Jr.
and Helen C. Kleberg
Foundation
Land Trust of Santa Cruz
County

\$10,000+ (Aplomado Falcon)

Anonymous (6)
3M
Amos Butler Audubon
Mrs. Walter F. Brissenden
Kathy Burger and Glen
Gerada
C.A.N. Foundation
John and Bayard Cobb
The Cooke Foundation
Cornell Douglas Foundation
Disney Conservation Fund
Cinnamon Dornsife
The Felburn Foundation
The Moses Feldman Family
Foundation
Martha Flanders
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Annis Henson	Ruth Thacker
Chris and Steven Hightower	Steve Thal
Chris Houser and Jessica Mondres	Sidney Wade
Jeanne Howell	Rick Wilkens
Patty Hoyt and David Wimpfheimer	The Woodburgs
Michael Huber	Brenda Wright and Coen Dexter
Andrew Isenhower	Jack "Loved Cardinals" Yagecic
Wayne Johnson	



Northern Saw-whet Owl by Karen Blaugrund_SS

Gifts in Memoriam

Marco Antonio Alvarado	Judi K
Amanda Andrade	Joan Hogan, Tom Halpin, and Dan Keyack
Shannon Antoine	Joni Lane
Gale Auguste	Renne Leatto
Rosie Ault	Bill LoSasso
Sandy Bernstein	Cheryl Miller
Vic Berry	Lois Miller
Frank Blackburn Jr.	Wayne Lawrence Neal
Elizabeth Clavel	Dale Nipstad
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Nelvina DeKam	Jill Sweetie Peiser
Myra K. (von Behren) Dell	Michelle Philips
Beverly Erbacher	Cynthia Wiggins Reddell
Robert Fauteux	George Frank Sams
John Finnegan	Robert Schaefer
Marline Firkus	Bob Schafer
Stephen Jay Flanagan	Kathy Schanck
Wilbur E. Garrett	Richard Selzer
Ron Gullick	Doris Skaja
Carolyn Heil-Dorn	Maurice Tauber
David Huebner	Brian Taylor
Martha Barrett Huestis	Peter C. Williams
David M. Huff	
Frank Huff	

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Adobe Matching Gift Program	John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
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Allstate Giving Campaign	Merck
Aon	Morgan Stanley
Baxalta	Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program
BP Matching Fund Programs	Pitney Bowes
Chevron Humankind	Shell Oil Company Foundation
Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation	Silicon Valley Community Foundation
France-Merrick Foundation	The Boeing Company
Freeport-McMoan Copper & Gold Foundation	The Boston Foundation
GE Foundation	The Skoll Foundation
Goldman Sachs Matching Gifts Program	Truist.com
Graham Holdings	UBS Matching Gift Program
IBM Corporation	Union Pacific
Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies	Zeta Associates

Gifts in Kind

Bill Thompson, III	Kilauea Field Station, Pacific Island
Birdwatcher's Digest	Ecosystems Research Center,
Gary Filerman	US Geological Survey
Russell Galen	Catherine E. McDermott
	David Sibley



American Goldfinch by Nancy Bauer, SS

Partner Organizations

Allegheny Bird Conservation Alliance	Corporación Nacional Forestal, Chile	University of Hawai'i-Hilo	Ministerio del Medio Ambiente (MMA), Chile	Reserva Biológica Tirimbina, Costa Rica
Alliance to Protect Prince Edward County (Ontario)	Deschutes Land Trust	Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources', Division of Forestry and Wildlife	Ministry of the Environment, Government of Ecuador	Reserva Silvestre Privada El Jaguar
American Forest Foundation	Earthjustice	Hawai'i Green Growth	Minnesota Logger Education Program	Revive & Restore
Amigos de Sian Ka'an, Mexico	Eckerd College	Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge	Mississippi Valley Conservancy	Rochester Birding Association
Aquasis, Brazil	Endangered Habitats League	Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park	Moloka'i Land Trust	Ruffed Grouse Society/ American Woodcock Society
Asociación Armonía, Bolivia	Endangered Species Coalition	Houston Audubon Society	Myer, Glitzenstein & Eubanks, LLC	San Diego Zoo Global
Asociación Ecosistemas Andinos (ECOAN), Peru	Ennead Architects	Hui Ho'omalu i Ka 'Aina	National Tropical Botanical Garden	SAVE Brasil, Brazil
Audubon New York	Environmental Protection in the Caribbean	Human-Wildlife Interactions	National Wild Turkey Federation	Save Ontario Shores
AvesChile, Chile	Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Division of Recreation and Parks	Instituto Butantan, Brazil	Nature Canada	Saving Birds Thru Habitat
Aves Y Conservación, Ecuador	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	Instituto de Fomento Pesquero, Chile	The Nature Conservancy	Schlitz Audubon Nature Center
Bat Conservation International	Florida Shorebird Alliance	Instituto Ecología, Mexico	Nature Saskatchewan	Smithsonian Institution Migratory Bird Center
Bird City Wisconsin	Forestry, Wildlife and Parks Division, Dominica	Instituto Uiracu, Brazil	New York City Audubon	Sociedad Ornitológica de la Hispaniola (SOH), Dominican Republic
Bird Conservancy of the Rockies	Fundação Biodiversitas, Brazil	Island Conservation	Northern Great Plains Joint Venture	South African Pulp & Paper Industries (SAPPI)
Bird Conservation Network	Fundación Jocotoco, Ecuador	International Crane Foundation	Northern Laramie Range Alliance	Sustainable Forestry Initiative
Birders for Responsible Wind and Solar Energy	Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y la Conservación (FUNDAECO), Guatemala	James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge	Oikonus Ecosystem Knowledge	Tennessee Ornithological Society
BirdLife International	Fundación ProAves, Colombia	Kaua'i Albatross Network	Ontario Nature	Texas General Land Office
Black Swamp Bird Observatory	FXFowle Architects	Kaua'i Endangered Seabird Recovery Project	Oregon Wild	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Blandin Paper Company (UPM-Kymmene Corporation)	Galveston Island Park Board of Trustees	Kilauea Field Station, Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center, U.S. Geological Survey	Osa Conservation, Costa Rica	The Urban Wildlands Group
Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge	Genesee Audubon	Kaua'i Forest Bird Recovery Project	Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit, University of Hawai'i-Mānoa	United Nations Environment Program
Braddock Bay Bird Observatory	Golden Eagle Audubon Society (Idaho)	Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative	Pacific Islands Climate Change Cooperative	University of Georgia
Carnegie Museum of Natural History's Powdermill Avian Research Center	Golden Gate Audubon	Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge	Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office (USFWS)	University of Guadalajara, Mexico
Center for Biological Diversity	Government of the Dominican Republic, Dominica Republic	Klamath Bird Observatory	Pacific Rim Conservation	Urban Ecology Center
City of Eugene, Oregon	Government of Honduras, Honduras	La Asociación Red Chilena de Herpetología (RECH), Chile	Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument	U.S. Geological Survey Western Ecological Research Center-Seabird Program
City of Port Aransas	Greenbelt Land Trust	Long Tom Watershed Council	PETA	U.S. Green Building Council
Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program	Grupo de Ecología y Conservación de Islas	Maryland Ornithological Society	Picaflor de Arica, Chile	US Treasury
Colorado State University	Grupo Jaragua, Dominican Republic	Maui Forest Bird Recovery Project	Portland Audubon	Virginia Alliance for Animal Shelters
Columbia Land Trust	Eric K. Gillespie Professional Corporation	Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project	The Prairie Enthusiasts	Virginians for Responsible Energy
Comisión Nacional para el Conocimiento y Uso de La Biodiversidad (CONABIO), Mexico.	Hawai'i Cooperative Studies Unit,	Mauna Kea Forest Restoration Project	Prendergast Laurel Architects	Western Great Lakes Bird and Bat Observatory
Confederated Tribes of Arizona		Mexican Navy, Secretaría de Marina	Pro Delphinus, Peru	The Wildlife Society
Conservation Council for Hawai'i		Milwaukee Audubon	ProNatura Chiapas, Mexico	Wisconsin Humane Society
The Conservation Fund		Ministério do Meio Ambiente (MMA), Brazil	Pronatura Noreste, Mexico	Wisconsin Young Forest Partnership
Conservation Law Center			Pronatura Noroeste, Mexico	
Conservation Metrics			Pronatura Sur, Mexico	
Cornell Lab of Ornithology			ProVita, Venezuela	
			Proyecto de Golondrina del Tempestad del Collar	
			Red de Observadores de Aves y Vida Silvestre de Chile (ROC)	

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Sandhill Crane by Rosalie Kreulen, SS

A Legacy for Birds – Kathy Burger and Glen Gerada

"We are involved in birding both in our local community and internationally. In developing our estate plans, we believed it was important to give back, not just to specific people in our families, but also as a lasting gift to ideas we are passionate about. For us that means a commitment to preserve and protect bird species and their habitat, which in a larger sense protects the vital ecosystems we all depend on.

American Bird Conservancy is included in our estate plans because ABC addresses "big issues" critical to birds, such as wind towers; through the Bird Conservation Alliance, ABC brings together diverse environmental groups to work as partners for the benefit of birds; and finally, we have had the opportunity to meet and to bird with many of the ABC staff. They have invariably impressed us with the passion and extreme work ethic they bring to their efforts.

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

- Kathy Burger and Glen Gerada



Kathy Burger and Glen Gerada, 2012.

You too can leave a legacy for birds when you join ABC's Legacy Circle with an estate gift through your will, retirement plan, trust, or life insurance policy. If you would like more information, or if you have already included ABC in your estate plans, please contact Jack Morrison, Planned Giving Director, at 540-253-5780 or at jmorrison@abcbirds.org.

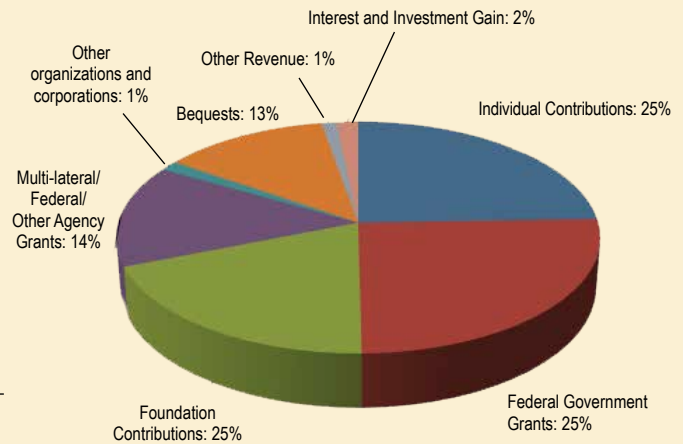


2016 Financial Statement

ANNUAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Individual Contributions	\$ 3,205,407
Federal Government Grants	\$ 3,316,394
Foundation Contributions	\$ 2,511,566
Multi-Lateral/Federal/Other Agency Grants	\$ 1,873,460
Other Organizations and Corporations	\$ 175,510
Bequests	\$ 1,652,313
Other Revenue	\$ 143,229
Interest and Investment Loss	\$ 218,599
<i>(incl. Unrealized Loss)</i>	

Total Annual Support and Revenue **\$13,096,478**



ANNUAL EXPENSES

Program

Bird Conservation Programs	\$10,047,105
Education and Outreach	\$ 801,213
Membership	\$ 262,344

Total Program Services **\$11,110,662**

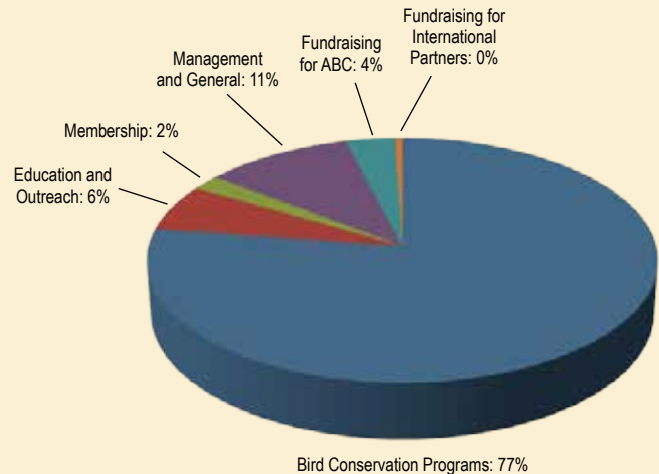
Supporting Services

Management and General	\$ 1,367,575
Fundraising for ABC	\$ 457,017
Fundraising for International Partners	\$ 66,565

Total Supporting Services **\$ 1,891,157**

Total Annual Expenses **\$13,001,818**

Net Assets at December 31, 2016 **\$ 5,869,746**



American Bird Conservancy's financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2016 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 or on our website at abcbirds.org.



ABC is rated an "Exceptional" Four Star Charity by the independent group Charity Navigator. We are proud to receive their highest rating. charitynavigator.org



American Bird Conservancy

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Please pass along this report to others who may want to help achieve results for birds!

