



ABC Comments on Eagle Take Rule

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is taking public comment – deadline today - on an eagle-management plan, including the issuing of 30-year permits to wind energy and other companies that could allow the “take” (or harm) of thousands of eagles. Under the proposed plan—also called the Eagle Take Rule—industry would not be required to have mortality data collected by independent, third-party experts; share mortality data with the public; or take critical factors like proper siting of wind turbines into consideration. ABC sent an extensive [comment letter](#) to FWS.

To Protect Birds from Wind Turbines, Look to Hawai‘i's Approach

Hawai‘i has a very different approach to wind development than the mainland United States, with strict protocols that go a long way toward protecting endangered birds and bats.... [Read more >>](#)

ABC Is Hard at Work to Save Native Hawaiian Birds

Hawaiian birds face many challenges, including loss of habitat and non-native predators, but American Bird Conservancy is working closely with partner organizations to help these rare species survive.... [Read more >>](#)

EPA Urged to Halt Use of Deadly Pesticides and Rat Poisons, and to Fix Wildlife Mortality Incident Reporting System

ABC and partner groups are urging the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to protect birds from dangerous insecticides and rodenticides. In a recent letter signed by 70 groups, we advised EPA to fix its broken reporting system for dead and poisoned wildlife. These “canaries in the coalmine” can help guide EPA managers in determining appropriate restrictions and mitigation measures – but only if

there is a functioning system in place to track the poisonings. Here are some recent [recommendations on incident reporting](#) from ABC and partners.

One of the most deadly pesticides, chlorpyrifos, is a particular threat to endangered species. EPA's draft biological evaluation found that chlorpyrifos was "likely to adversely affect" 93 out of 110 listed bird species and 30 designated Critical Habitats for birds. Incident data confirm that chlorpyrifos is lethal to birds. [ABC's Avian Incident Monitoring System database](#) includes 58 incidents implicating chlorpyrifos with deaths of at least 775 birds.

Of particular concern are birds such as the Attwater's subspecies of the Greater Prairie-Chicken, the Florida subspecies of Grasshopper Sparrow, and the Great Lakes' population of the Piping Plover; these are all birds with tiny populations that cannot withstand further declines. Other species that may be on their way to ESA listing, such as the Tricolored Blackbird, are also of serious concern. Seed treatments and granular uses of chlorpyrifos can be deadly to the birds that eat them. [ABC is asking EPA to immediately cancel](#) the use of chlorpyrifos-based seed coatings, granules and baits, and urging an emergency suspension of all uses of chlorpyrifos given its known harm to wildlife and people.

Neonicotinoids are a newer generation of pesticides linked to deaths of bees, birds and other wildlife. [ABC recently commented](#) on the Preliminary Pollinator Assessment for the registration review of the neonic imidacloprid. The EPA draft is focused narrowly on managed bees, so it's not a solid basis for assessing impacts to birds, butterflies, native bees, bats and other pollinators, or the aquatic invertebrates that sustain them. It fails to reflect the real-world conditions of multiple chemicals used in concert, or to account for the range of exposures such as seed coatings, soil infiltration, and groundwater contamination. We look forward to seeing the multi-taxa risk assessments to be released in late 2016.

We are continuing our campaign to remove deadly anticoagulant rodenticides from the consumer market. While we applaud the legal settlements pulling d-CON rat poisons from retail shelves, we are disturbed by preliminary results from California indicating no significant change in the number of cases of wildlife poisoning by anticoagulant rodenticides since the new regulations were instituted. ABC is [asking EPA to close remaining loopholes](#) that allow for bulk purchases which continue to threaten Golden Eagles and other raptors.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is planning to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for invasive rodent and mongoose control on U.S. Pacific Islands and in Hawaii. Predation by rodents, mongooses, and cats threatens listed birds. ABC has offered [recommendations for the EIS](#).

For more information about birds and pesticides please contact Cynthia Palmer, cpalmer@abcbirds.org.

Letter Urges Congress to Stop Bird Collisions with Buildings

Each year, millions of birds collide with buildings that aren't designed to be "Bird Smart." Rep. Mike Quigley has introduced H.R. 2280, the Federal Bird Safe Building Act, and 130 [conservation groups have sent a letter to Congress](#) endorsing the legislation and asking for a prompt hearing. Thanks from

Cornell Lab of Ornithology and American Bird Conservancy to all the groups that endorsed the letter. Conservationists can contact their Representative and urge him or her to become a cosponsor of the bill using this link:

<https://secure2.convio.net/abcb/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=204>

Bird Conservation Session at the North American Ornithological Conference – August 16, Washington, D.C.

From August 16-20, 2016, the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center is hosting the [North American Ornithological Conference \(NAOC\)](#). This year’s theme is “Bringing Science and Conservation Together.” In conjunction with this conference, there will be a Bird Conservation Alliance meeting August 16 from 1-5 p.m. highlighting connections between science and bird conservation policy. To attend, you must be registered for NAOC. (One-day registrations are available and will allow you to attend pre-conference morning workshops and training sessions as well as the opening reception in the evening. [Click here to register.](#))

Please note: When you register for NAOC, you will need to sign up for the Bird Conservation Alliance (BCA) meeting, which is listed under “Workshops and Training Sessions.” Look for “Bird Conservation Alliance – How to Effectively Engage in Conservation.” For the full meeting agenda, please see <https://abcbirds.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/BCA-Meeting-Invite.pdf>.

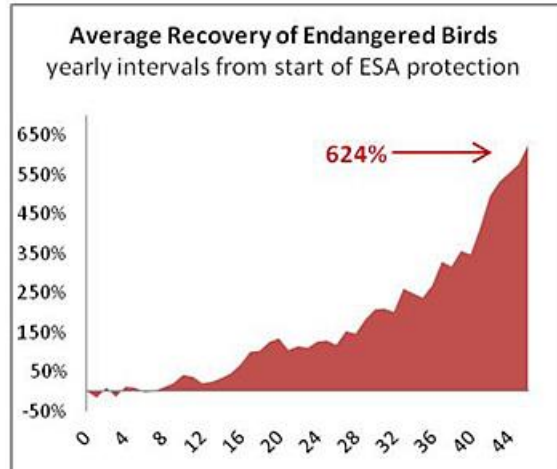
Greater Protections Sought for Threatened Marbled Murrelets in Oregon

Conservation groups submitted petitions this week asking the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and the Oregon Board of Forestry to take new measures to better identify and protect important forest areas for protected Marbled Murrelets. See Birding Wire for details at <http://www.birdingwire.com/releases/378278/>

85 Percent of Continental U.S. Birds Protected by Endangered Species Act Have Increased or Stabilized Since Being Protected

Eighty-five percent of continental United States birds protected under the Endangered Species Act increased or stabilized their population size since being protected, according to [A Wild Success: A Systematic Review of Bird Recovery Under the Endangered Species Act](#), a new report by the Center for Biological Diversity.

Recovering species include California Condors in California and Arizona (up 391 percent since 1968), Whooping Cranes in the central United States (up 923 percent since 1967), Wood Storks in the Southeast (up 61 percent since 1984), Kirtland's Warblers in the Great Lakes (up 1,077 percent since 1971), California Least Terns (up 1,835 percent since 1970) and Puerto Rican Parrots (up 354 percent since 1967).



The Washington Post: Grasslands at Risk

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2016/06/16/the-enormous-but-forgotten-threat-to-americas-last-grasslands/>

Top Ways to Help Birds at Home

We've identified the top actions virtually anyone can take to help birds, no matter where you live—from how you treat your cat to the coffee you drink and the way you garden. By taking these simple steps, you'll also help many other species, including people.

[Live a bird-friendly life >>](#)

