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## **Bring Back Birds Sign-On Letter to Reverse the 3 Billion Lost**

A landmark 2019 *Science* study found that [bird populations have declined by close to 3 billion birds since 1970](#), representing a 29-percent overall decline in 50 years. There is urgent need to address habitat loss and threats so we can reverse this decline. Fortunately, the remarkable recovery of waterfowl populations, sustained now for decades, and the return of endangered bird species from the brink of extinction demonstrate that coordinated, sustained conservation action works. Just as there is no single cause of declining migratory bird populations, there is no single policy solution, program, or approach that will uniformly address the needs of all species in all situations. Instead, we need a suite of actions that foster on-the-ground protection, mitigation, and restoration of bird populations and the habitats they need to thrive. Accordingly, American Bird Conservancy and National Audubon Society have identified [policy options](#) needed to meet this challenge, address threats, and build capacity to deliver bird conservation on a much larger scale. **Please review the recommendations and [sign on](#) to join the effort to bring birds back.**

[Endorse Here!](#)



## **Administration Revokes Opinion That Compromised Key Bird Protections**

The new Administration has revoked the Department of the Interior's so-called "[M-Opinion](#)"

(Solicitor's Opinion M-37050), which in 2017 weakened protections for [more than 1,000 species under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act](#). Reversing decades of consistent interpretation of the Act, the M-Opinion declared that the Act did not prohibit the predictable and preventable killing of migratory birds by commercial activities. In addition, the public is being invited to comment on a proposal to revoke the new regulation and establish new protections for migratory birds. Now is our chance to speak out for migratory bird protection.

[Read More!](#)



## **Raise Your Voice for Spotted Owls and Marbled Murrelets**

The new Administration is taking steps to protect Northern Spotted Owls by delaying implementation of a harmful rule that would exempt 3.4 million acres — about one-third of the owl's protected habitat — from critical habitat protection. Finalized in January, this reckless exemption jeopardizes the future of an iconic subspecies protected by the Endangered Species Act. To make sure the Northern Spotted Owl gets the protection it needs, Congress needs to act now. **Tell your Senators and Representative to [stand up for the](#)**

[Northern Spotted Owl and the Endangered Species Act.](#)

[Take Action!](#)



**Bird-Safe Buildings Act  
Reintroduced in the 117th  
Congress**

Yesterday, U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (D-IL) and Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) reintroduced the bipartisan, bicameral [Bird Safe Buildings Act](#). This cost-neutral legislation requires that each public building constructed, acquired, or significantly altered by the General Services Administration (GSA) incorporate bird-safe building materials and design features, to the maximum extent possible. "Almost one third of American bird species are currently endangered and fatal collisions with built infrastructure is a significant cause. We have a responsibility to prevent as many of these deaths as possible," said Congressman Quigley in a [press statement](#). **Please ask your members of Congress to [co-sponsor the Bird-Safe Buildings Act now](#).**

[Take Action!](#)



## Resources From the North American Bird Conservation Initiative

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) is developing a [conservation relevancy community](#) to help states and state partners implement the [Relevancy Roadmap](#). The roadmap is a practical guide that state and provincial fish and wildlife conservation agencies can use to overcome barriers to broader relevance, public engagement and support. As a resource to this community, Dr. Judith Scarl, Coordinator for the [The North American Bird Conservation Initiative](#) (NABCI), and Bird Conservation Program Manager for AFWA, will be giving a Relevancy Webinar on Thursday, March 25, from 2-3 p.m. EST. This webinar will provide an overview of NABCI's relevancy initiative and introduce useful resources.

[Register Here!](#)



## Are Wind Turbines a Significant Threat to Birds?

There are many threats to birds and they are all significant. Birds face a host of threats — habitat loss, predation by outdoor cats, collisions with windows, pesticide poisoning ... the list goes on. Cumulatively, the losses are huge: A recent [study](#)

by ABC and others showed that there are 2.9 billion fewer birds in the U.S. and Canada than in 1970 — a nearly 30-percent decline of the total population. Then there's climate change: Another recent [study](#) evaluated the vulnerability of 604 North American bird species to the effects of climate change. Researchers found that 64 percent were vulnerable in some way. To protect birds from the impacts of climate change, we need a rapid, multifaceted approach to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. That's where "bird-smart" renewable energy comes in.

[Read More!](#)



## **Locals and Scientists Rediscover the Black-browed Babbler in Borneo After 172 Years**

After more than 170 years, locals in Kalimantan, Borneo, Indonesia, have helped rediscover the lost Black-browed Babbler. The bird has been missing since it was first described and collected by scientists around 1848. Since then, the trail to find the Black-browed Babbler has gone cold, despite several attempts to find it, leaving scientists in the dark about its ecology, population, and behavior. Many feared the species might have been extinct. The rediscovery was

published in Oriental Bird Club's journal  
*BirdingASIA* last month.

[Read More!](#)

*Inside Bird Conservation* is produced by American Bird Conservancy for those who want a closer look at bird conservation policy and related issues. Past editions and other issue updates are available on the [Bird Conservation Alliance website](#). Please forward to interested conservationists. To subscribe, please send a message to [sholmer@abcbirds.org](mailto:sholmer@abcbirds.org).

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