



Conserving the Future

WILDLIFE REFUGES & THE NEXT GENERATION

Bird Watchers

Offer Your Bold Ideas to Help Shape the Refuge System's Future!



Recreational bird watchers have an opportunity to help the [National Wildlife Refuge System](#) improve how it fulfills its mission through an ongoing public dialogue called *Conserving the Future: Wildlife Refuges and the Next Generation*.

This effort is designed to refine how the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service implements the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, the law that directs the Refuge System to conserve wildlife and provide wildlife-dependent uses. The Refuge System wants to evaluate how to better serve birders as well as the birds! This new process should help ensure that the Refuge System is on track to achieve its mission, while being ready to meet the many new challenges of a changing world.

National wildlife refuges offer unparalleled birding opportunities. The Refuge System is home to more than 700 species of birds, and each year millions of migrating birds use wildlife refuges as stopping points on their migratory journeys south for the winter and north for the summer. For birders, both coastal and inland wildlife refuges provide an opportunity to witness this twice-yearly spectacle, as well as to add birds to their life or year lists.

Go to www.AmericasWildlife.org to give voice to your vision for the Refuge System! The website, hosted by the [National Wildlife Refuge Association](#), is a forum for wildlife conservation and your biggest, best ideas to ensure that refuges survive and thrive into the future. Read and vote on others' ideas. Post your best birding photos from wildlife refuges on the site. Encourage others to participate in the discussion by distributing this flyer to fellow birders in the field or at your local bird club meeting. Consider sharing it through your state or local birding listserv.

The [National Wildlife Refuge System](#) is the nation's premier network of public lands dedicated to protecting wildlife and habitat. Comprising 553 national wildlife refuges—at least one in every U.S. state and territory—the system protects more than 150 million acres of biologically diverse habitat that includes wetlands and forests, prairies, and seashores, of which about 20 million acres are designated Wilderness.



Help Shape a Future for Wildlife Conservation and the National Wildlife Refuge System

Make Your Voice Heard at www.AmericasWildlife.org



National
Wildlife Refuge
Association

visit www.AmericasWildlife.org