



US North American Bird Conservation Initiative

Mission: The [U.S. NABCI Committee](#) facilitates collaborative partnerships that advance biological, social, and scientific priorities for North American bird conservation.

Vision: Healthy and abundant populations of North American birds are valued by future generations and sustained by habitats that benefit birds and people.

Recent Products, Accomplishments, and February 2020 Meeting Highlights

NABCI's work is guided by a two-year work plan built into a five-year strategic plan. The Committee approved NABCI's [2019-2020 Work Plan](#) in August 2019.

National Bird Conservation Priorities: In 2018, NABCI identified a short list of consistent conservation priorities that NABCI should support, promote, and communicate to promote a unified voice across the bird conservation community. The [National Bird Conservation Priorities document](#) highlights five themes with 3-6 Strategies per theme; these provide a framework for broad bird conservation. The Priorities also identify a "Top 10" list of Priority Actions that bird conservation partners agree urgently need to happen, on which we can make progress over the next 3-5 years. In February 2020, NABCI approved a [proposal](#) to develop a "Field Guide to Developing Partnerships" to help bird conservation professionals more effectively engage new partners and leverage public/private dollars to expand conservation impacts. NABCI also committed to [developing a multifaceted package](#) of tools, incentives, and policy to promote no net loss of grasslands.

3 Billion Birds Loss, State of the Birds, and the Recovering America's Wildlife Act: The recent [publication in Science](#) demonstrated that North America has lost nearly 30% of its bird abundance since 1970, highlighting a net loss across almost all habitats, including generalists, with the largest loss in grassland birds. This paper has galvanized widespread attention, including hundreds of newspaper articles reaching more than 1700 media outlets and 3.8 billion people. The conservation community's next step is to develop broad-scale changes in how we protect and manage habitats, and in policy. One potential game-changer is the Recovering America's Wildlife Act, and NABCI encourages partners to continue to use the [2019 State of the Birds Report](#) and [supplemental insert](#) to communicate about how this legislation can support bird conservation. NABCI will develop a plan by August 2020 for next steps in reversing the bird declines.

Human Dimensions and Bird Conservation: NABCI continues to develop resources to help conservation professional use human dimensions information to address conservation issues. The [Human Dimensions of Bird Conservation Webinar Series](#) focus on topics including: connections between nature and human health, exploring behavior change strategies that work, engaging urban communities, and embracing diversity. NABCI explores opportunities to partner with zoos and aquariums to promote conservation: 183 million people visit zoos each year, which presents a tremendous opportunity to reach and engage the general public. For example, the [North American Songbirds Saving Animals from Extinction \(SAFE\)](#) program leverages this massive audience to elevate North American species to the level of charismatic megafauna like cheetahs and gorillas.

Private/Working Lands and Grasslands: NABCI will host a [Private Lands Staff Training Forum](#) March 24-25, 2020 in Kansas City to help private lands staff build relationships with private landowners and understand landowner needs and options available. In addition, a [Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit](#) (4-6 August 2020) and a Mississippi Flyway Grasslands Summit (1-3 September 2020) will identify tri-national objectives for grassland conservation and develop a roadmap highlighting priority conservation needs.

[See the full meeting notes, action items, and presentations.](#)