

Over 200 species
of birds breed in
Alaska!

Simple Steps to Protect Birds



Grow Native Plants

Provide birds shelter and food by reducing lawn space and increasing the number of native plants in your yard.



Keep Cats Indoors

House cats are the #1 threat to wild birds. They are estimated to kill more than 2.4 billion birds a year in the U.S. and Canada.



Make Windows Safer

We have all heard that dreaded “thunk!” when a bird hits a window. Install screens, create window murals, or use stickers to prevent collisions.



Reduce Plastic Use

Seabirds mistake plastics for food in the ocean. Reduce the overall amount of plastics purchased. Commit to using reusable products. Recycle when possible.



Share Bird Observations

Learn more about birds in your area and help scientists by reporting what you see. Free tools like eBird, iNaturalist, and Project Feeder Watch make sharing simple.



For More Information or
Guidance on the MBTA:

Southern Alaska Fish and Wildlife Field Office

Phone: 907-271-2888
4700 BLM Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Northern Alaska Fish and Wildlife Field Office

Phone: 907-456-0203
101 12th Avenue, Room 110
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

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Protecting Alaska's Breeding Birds



Billions of birds fly to
Alaska each year.

Learn how you can help
protect them.

POLICY 101:

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act

WHAT IS IT AND HOW DOES IT HELP PROTECT ALASKA'S BIRDS?

The United States has been prioritizing bird conservation since as early as 1918, with the establishment of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). It aims to keep our bird populations healthy. It forbids the "take" (hunting, shooting, harming, capturing, etc.) of migratory birds and their nests, unless permitted by regulations.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) works with the public, industries, and state and federal agencies to help protect Alaska's migratory birds. We all play a part in bird conservation.

Learn more at
www.fws.gov/migratorybirds



HOW DO HUMANS IMPACT BIRDS?

Birds and their nestlings may be killed or injured when their nests are destroyed, damaged, or disturbed. Activities that could harm birds during the nesting season include:



Trimming trees, cutting down dead and live trees, and removing shrubs and brush.



Burning piles of vegetation and conducting planned burns.



Mowing, driving over vegetation, and disturbing the ground.



Making loud noises.



Activities intended to improve habitat (like stream enhancement and invasive species control).

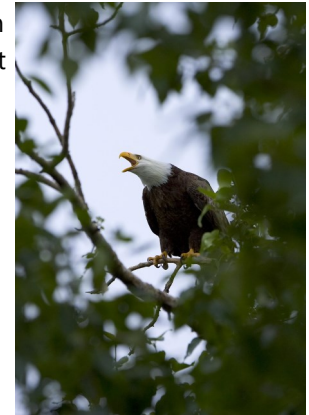


Lighting and hazards on communication towers, buildings, and coastlines.

Since 1970, North American bird populations have dropped by almost 30%.

MINIMIZE YOUR IMPACT

Birds are most sensitive when breeding and nesting. Protect birds—and comply with the MBTA—by completing all vegetation clearing and land disturbance before or after bird nesting seasons (shown below). If you have questions about how a project may impact birds, coordinate with your local USFWS office.



Bird Nesting Seasons

Recommendation: Avoid all land disturbance and vegetation clearing during these dates:

Southeast Alaska:

April 15 - July 15

Southcentral and Interior Alaska:

May 1 - July 15

Seward Peninsula:

May 1 - July 20

Northern Alaska:

June 1 - July 30

Bald and Golden Eagles: Eagles and their nests have additional protections under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. If you think there is an eagle nest where you plan to work, we recommend reaching out to the USFWS.