# **Cornell Land Trust Bird Conservation Initiative**







### **Land Trust/Bird Conservation Nexus**

land Trusts

Birds as indicators of pollinator conservation practices attributes Healthy pollinators

Land Trusts have broad reach to landowners, protecting >61 million private acres nationwide



61,072,596

**Acres Protected** 



That's about 46,267,118 football fields!



Birds are indicators of healthy ecosystems and catalysts for capacity building and conservation strategies

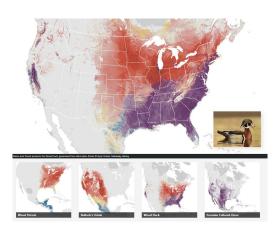




# Land Trust National Needs Assessment (614 land trusts participated)



**Funding** 



**Planning Tools** 



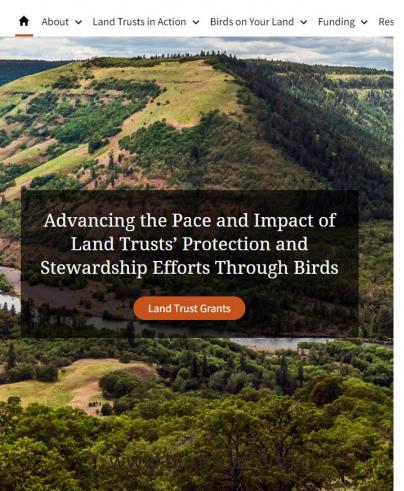
**Conservation Resources** 







#### Land Trust Bird Conservation Initiative



#### **Conservation Resource Directory**

- landscape-scale plans, BMPs, etc.
- citizen science, joint ventures, PIF

#### **Fundraising Directory / Land Trust Grants**

- bird related funding sources
- Funding, technical advice, partnerships

### **Workshops & Webinars / Planning Tools**

- birding tools, eBird, science products
- collaboratives & success stories

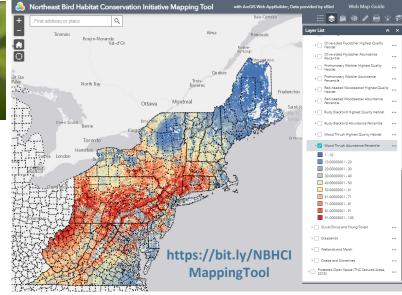


# Effective Ways to use eBird

- Inform grant applications
- Engage in citizen science
- Monitoring /stewardship requirements
- Assess & evaluate management
- Use eBird science products for land prioritization & planning











## **Cornell Land Trust Grant Program**

Annual RFP January; due March 1

Capacity and Partnership Projects
6 grants of \$5K each (\$10K in 2025) (competitive)

Management and Restoration Projects 8 grants of \$25K each (competitive)

**Conservation Collaborative Grant 1 grant of \$50K (solicited)** 





### Cornell Land Trust Bird Conservation Initiative: Conservation Collaboratives

















## **Steps to Consider**

- Use birds as effective ambassadors for conservation
- Take time to build relationships with partners and landowners; look for unconventional partnerships
- Tie landowner place in space into larger picture and conservation messaging
- Investigate new funding sources and use funding sources as opportunities for collaboration
- Conduct outreach and listening sessions to generate good will and build relationships

# Private Land Protected Forever



with a voluntary conservation agreement

### www.birdtrust.org

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## Birds Gone

Land trusts can help curb declines

By Sara Barker Swarthout

Birds connect us to wild spaces and our natural world. They give

This staggering revelation represents a 30% reduction in total breeding bird abundance,

According to the authors, habitat loss is a driving factor in these widespread declines,