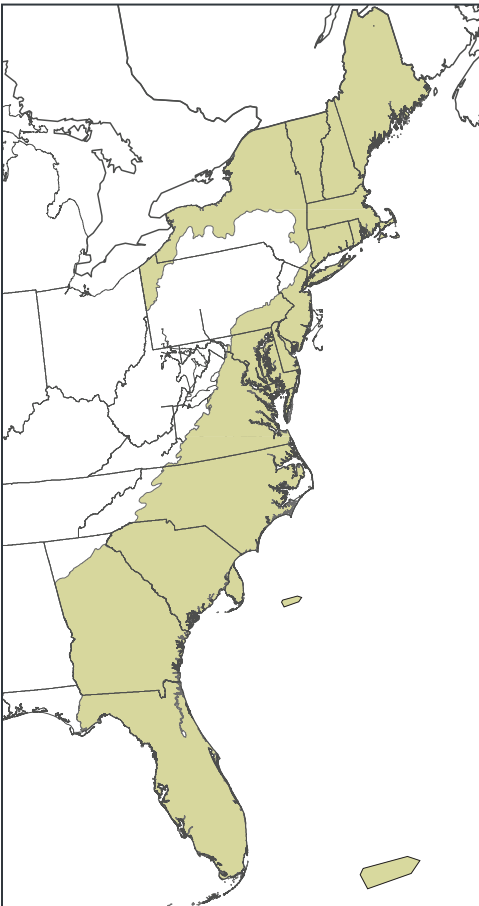




Mist on Scarborough Marsh, Maine



Atlantic Coast Joint Venture Boundary

The Atlantic Coast Joint Venture

The Atlantic Coast Joint Venture is a partnership focused on the conservation of habitat for native birds in the Atlantic Flyway of the United States from Maine south to Puerto Rico. The partnership consists of 17 states and commonwealths plus key federal and regional conservation agencies and organizations in the joint venture area. The joint venture was originally formed as a regional partnership focused on the conservation of waterfowl and wetlands under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan in 1988. The joint venture has since broadened its mission to the conservation of habitats for all birds consistent with major national and continental bird conservation plans.



Humacao, Puerto Rico

Achieving Our Goals

Atlantic Coast Joint Venture partners recognize the benefits of working together to achieve common goals for bird conservation in the Atlantic Coast region. We jointly develop sound science to assess the status and needs of bird species; to identify priority geographic areas and habitat conservation actions and to evaluate the impact of conservation through monitoring and research. We work together at regional, state and local scales to implement priority conservation projects guided by this science foundation. We utilize a small amount of federal funds to leverage and attract a much larger amount of matching funds in pursuit of these common goals.

Partnerships

The Atlantic Coast Joint Venture provides a partnership structure for federal, state, regional and local partners to coordinate and improve the effectiveness of bird habitat conservation planning, delivery and evaluation at the flyway, state, focus area and local scale.



TNC

Partner meeting

Science

In order to achieve our goals and to develop conservation priorities, the joint venture develops, maintains and communicates a strong scientific foundation and specific products for planning, implementing and evaluating conservation actions. The science and tools developed by the partnership help guide the allocation of limited resources to the highest priority conservation actions and provide information on where we need to focus habitat conservation actions, how much habitat is needed, and what specific habitat protection, restoration and enhancement actions are needed to restore and sustain bird and other wildlife populations.



Habitat Conservation

The joint venture provides a structure and process that attracts partners, directs federal grants and other existing funds to the highest priority conservation areas and actions, leverages and generates new funding, and implements projects that support joint venture goals and objectives.



USFWS

Greater Scaup

Communication

Joint venture staff and partners develop outreach products to attract partners, support existing funding and seek new funds, improve internal relations and raise awareness of joint venture conservation priorities targeted to specific audiences. We ensure that information and tools are easily available in the formats and scales needed by partners using traditional and new media.



Bill Majoros

Stilt



Bottomland hardwood forest

"A society is defined not only by what it creates, but by what it refuses to destroy."

John Sawhill, former president/CEO of The Nature Conservancy

Delivering Science and Conservation with Partners

Conservation Projects

Conserving Working Forests in the Northeast

ACJV partners have conserved over a million acres of working forest in northern New England and New York, protecting important habitat for birds and other wildlife while allowing for compatible timber harvesting.

Using Oil Spill Fines to Conserve Habitat in Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts

Efforts of the ACJV, working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement, Environmental Protection Agency, Coast Guard and U.S. Attorney's office, resulted in \$7 million in criminal fines from a major oil spill in Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts being deposited in the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund. ACJV staff then worked with a broad partnership led by the Coalition for Buzzards Bay to put together nine wetland conservation projects that leveraged more than \$16.4 million in matching partner funds from 15 different partners and resulted in the protection and restoration of 1,773 acres of coastal habitats.

Southern Tip Partnership

The Southern Tip of the Delmarva Peninsula in Virginia is globally recognized as a critical corridor for migratory birds along the Atlantic Flyway and is a focus area for the ACJV. It is estimated that over 15 million land

birds pass through and stop over on the Southern Tip each fall during migration to replenish fat reserves and find safe roosting areas. Diverse partnerships composed of state and federal agencies, profit and non-profit organizations, land trusts, and private individuals are working together to identify, protect and manage conservation lands in this area. Joint venture staff and partners have secured significant federal funding for habitat conservation through federal grants, leveraged partner match and supported research on migratory stopover habitat in this area.



Bill Majoros

Egret

Science Projects

Designing Sustainable Landscapes

The "Designing Sustainable Landscapes" project being implemented by the ACJV along with the U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and a number of universities is allowing partners to answer questions including how much habitat protection, restoration and enhancement are needed where to sustain bird and other wildlife populations. Tools and maps developed through this project will guide habitat conservation funding to the highest priority areas based on current conditions as well as predicted future conditions that take climate change and urban growth into account.

Integrating Waterbird Monitoring with Management Decisions

Sustaining healthy populations of waterbirds that migrate long distances is a major challenge for land managers. How does a manager know which species to manage for at a specific site? How important is a single site in the big picture? How can many managers coordinate their actions across the landscape so that the birds have the right amount and quality of habitat, at the right time, in the right places? These questions are difficult to answer without understanding how all the pieces fit together. Managers and scientists in the ACJV are working together on a new project to understand and optimally manage conservation lands in the Atlantic Flyway to support continental populations of waterbirds.

Facing Climate Change

In the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture area, climate change is predicted to result in significant changes to habitats including sea level rise impacts on coastal marshes and beaches and the effects precipitation and temperature will have the distribution and composition of wetland and upland communities and the bird species that depend upon them. As a regional partnership of federal, state and regional conservation agencies and organizations, the joint venture is coordinating assessments of the impacts of climate change and adapting conservation strategies to address these impacts at flyway and ecoregional scales including the following activities.

- ✦ Development of Species and Habitat Models and Tools
- ✦ Monitoring of Bird Populations and Landscape Changes
- ✦ Regional Coordination and Tools to assist State Adaptation Planning for Migratory Birds
- ✦ Habitat and Species Vulnerability Assessments



Mac Stone

Bar Hammock, North American Wetland Conservation Act Grant Project

A Model that Works

Over five million acres of significant habitats have been protected, restored, and enhanced for migratory birds by joint venture partners from the inception of the joint venture in 1988 to the present. The strong partnership and sound scientific foundation have targeted this conservation to the most important habitats and geographic areas for migratory birds and allowed us to evaluate the effectiveness of these conservation actions. The joint venture approach is now allowing us to address additional challenges such as impacts due to climate change and to work collaboratively with other partners on the conservation of habitats for other wildlife and fish species...

Cumulative Habitat Conservation Accomplishments within the ACJV by Partners and Programs

