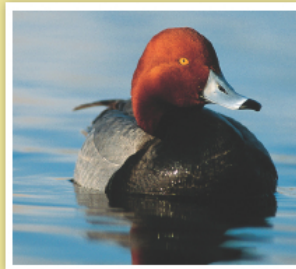


The Boreal Forest: PROTECTING NORTH AMERICA'S BIRD NURSERY IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

ADD YOUR NAME TO GIVE BILLIONS OF BIRDS A FIGHTING CHANCE



WHY PROTECT AT LEAST 50% OF THE BOREAL FOREST?

Stretching from interior Alaska across Canada to the Atlantic Ocean, North America's boreal forest is a global treasure.

From billions of birds to many of the last remaining healthy populations of large mammals including caribou, moose, wolves, and grizzly bears, the boreal forest is teeming with wildlife. Its unparalleled network of pristine lakes, rivers, and wetlands is the largest source of surface freshwater on Earth. Also one of the world's largest storehouses of carbon, the boreal forest is helping to slow the effects of climate change by locking more than 20 years' worth of the world's annual greenhouse gas emissions in its trees, peat, and soil.

VITAL BREEDING GROUNDS FOR BILLIONS OF NORTH AMERICA'S BIRDS

The boreal forest has been dubbed 'North America's Bird Nursery' due to the incredible abundance and diversity of migratory birds that breed there each summer. Billions of birds representing more than 300 species—from songbirds and

shorebirds to raptors and waterfowl—flock to the boreal each spring to nest and raise their young. In the fall, an estimated 3 billion to 5 billion birds migrate south to their favored wintering grounds.

Boreal birds play a crucial role in the billions of dollars spent each year in Canada and the US on bird-watching related activities. In the US alone, bird watchers spend \$40 billion each year, approximately five times the annual revenue of Major League Baseball.

But as abundant as they are, boreal birds and other wildlife face myriad threats to their habitat. Development is continuing to increase, and some of the boreal forest's most iconic species have suffered dramatic declines in recent decades.

Modern day conservation science has shown that at least half of an ecological region must remain free of industrial disturbance in order to preserve its biodiversity and ecological health. More than 1,500 scientists from around the world have already endorsed protecting at least half of the boreal forest from large-scale development, and now we need your support.

The Boreal Birds Need Half campaign seeks to protect 50% of North America's boreal forest, the largest unspoiled forest remaining on Earth and the critical breeding grounds for North America's birds.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RETURNING THE SIGNED ENDORSEMENT

- Go to BorealBirdsNeedHalf.org and fill out the electronic form, or...
- Fill out the form below and mail to the Boreal Songbird Initiative (address below), or scan and email it to info@borealbirds.org.

BOREAL BIRDS NEED HALF ENDORSEMENT

Canada and the United States have the opportunity to become world leaders in large-scale forest conservation and sustainable development. Conservation measures are in place in some areas, but more are urgently needed to protect boreal birds and their forest home. That is why we support efforts to realize the following vision as soon as possible:

- At least half of the boreal forest region must be protected and remain free of large-scale industrial disturbance. That level of protection is necessary to maintain healthy populations of the full spectrum of bird species and other wildlife inhabiting the North American boreal forest;
- Industrial activities undertaken in the remaining unprotected areas should be carried out with the highest global sustainability standards, with an emphasis on maintaining healthy and pristine wetlands and waterways;
- Both protected areas and industrial activities should proceed only with the free, prior, and informed consent of the affected Aboriginal communities.

We enthusiastically endorse the Boreal Birds Need Half campaign:

NAME

STATE / PROVINCE

EMAIL ADDRESS

DATE

☐ I would like to receive updates from the Boreal Songbird Initiative and our partners on efforts to protect boreal birds and their forest home.



Mailing address:

Boreal Songbird Initiative
1904 Third Ave, Suite 305
Seattle, WA 98101

