



DoD Partners in Flight Program Management And Technical Support

05-17

Background:

Migratory birds have significant legislative requirements, and are well studied by many groups. However, natural resources managers at numerous military installations are not authorized to spend resources on non-game migratory bird issues in Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans (INRMP). The international Partners in Flight initiative provides bird conservation planning guidelines covering all of the United States. DoD is an active participant in this initiative, and this project provides funding to support for installation personnel regarding the conservation and management of migratory birds and their habitats on military lands.

Objective:

The DoD Partners in Flight Program represents DoD in the major bird conservation initiatives, and organizes the DoD natural resources community to facilitate the exchange of information regarding bird conservation and management. This project provides support for the major components of that effort, including a full time program manager, information and outreach materials, and support for vital regional and national conservation projects



Bird Conservation on DoD Lands map

Summary of Approach:

The DoD Partners in Flight Program Manager and a network of representatives around the country consult with installation personnel on bird habitat management recommendations for inclusion into installation INRMPS. DoD Partners in Flight representatives are engaged in national and regional bird conservation efforts and pass along appropriate information to installations. Support of information and education materials, including for International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD), provide installations with the latest guidance and resources for their own Earth Day, IMBD, or other events.

Benefit:

Because Partners in Flight focuses on partnerships and science to accomplish conservation objectives, installations derive the benefit from the initiative's goals: facilitate cooperative partnerships, determine the current status of migratory birds and causes of population fluctuations, identify and maintain priority habitats for migratory birds. This allows installation natural resources personnel to proactively manage DoD lands to sustain healthy populations and minimize or prevent the future listing of additional species as threatened or endangered. Using the Partners in Flight species assessment process, integrating bird conservation plans into installation INRMPS is improving the quality and effectiveness of natural resources management on DoD lands.

Accomplishments:

A series of Fact Sheets have been produced to compliment the DoD Partners in Flight Strategic Plan. A map of Bird Conservation on DoD Lands, produced with National Geographic, shows U.S. military lands within the context of Bird Conservation Regions, and provides text on migratory bird legislation, INRMP planning, bird monitoring, and the Species of Concern database. A workshop is held each year at the National Military Fish and Wildlife Association training session, and presentations are given at bird clubs and other professional meetings around the country. Articles have been written in several magazines, including *National Wildlife* and *Birding*, and an irregular series in the newsletter of the American Birding Association highlights bird watching opportunities on DoD lands. An annual planning workshop for the DoD Partners in Flight representatives provides a means to develop and refine bird conservation priorities for DoD lands. A web site (dodpif.org) and an electronic listserve provide effective methods to disseminate information about DoD bird conservation activities within the DoD community and to the general public. The network of representatives review and rank all bird related proposals submitted to the Legacy program.

Contact Information:

Chris Eberly
Program Manager
DoD Partners in Flight
60 Fishback Court
Warrenton, VA 20186
540-349-9662
540-349-9135
ceberly@dodpif.org