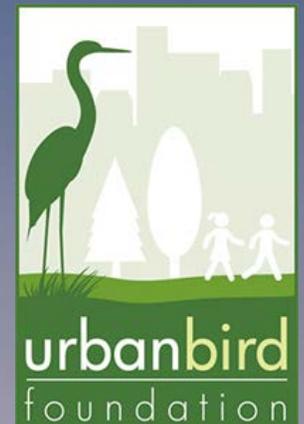


birds. people. communities.

2017

report to the community



the urban bird way

A Brighter, Sustainable Future

We seek a way forward to a healthy, sustainable planet for birds, people and their interconnected human and wildlife communities. Our work is rooted in the principles of sustainable development — social, environment and economics. We seek to instill in people everywhere that prosperity absolutely does not have to come at the cost of losing green space, wildlife, and human health. In order to achieve strong, healthy, and vibrant communities, we need to build connections to nature, not barriers against it.

At Urban Bird, we understand the issues and have bold, innovative, and science-based solutions that are beneficial for bird populations, wildlife, publicly accessible open spaces, education, and human health.

Mission and Vision

Urban Bird's mission is to conserve native birds in urban environments and preserve the interconnected relationship between people and nature.

Our vision is Birds. People. Communities.
A better, sustainable living for all.

Thanks to your support, we continue to grow as a leader in conserving and protecting urban and suburban habitat for the benefit of birds, people, and communities.





report to the community



Dear Friends,

With you at our side, Urban Bird Foundation has beat the odds and significantly impacted the conservation of birds in our urban and suburban communities.

In true grassroots fashion and in keeping with our history of challenging the status quo, we pursued the conservation of burrowing owls and open spaces, sought the creation of publicly accessible habitats that provide homes for wildlife and educational opportunities for students, and rescued injured birds from house finches to ducks to great horned owls – frontline, on-the-ground action for the benefit of birds, people, and communities.

Our approach continues to link field research, citizen science, habitat protection, and hands-on restoration projects with community involvement and education – a tactic that not only leads to greater protection of urban and suburban habitat and wildlife, but to lasting public engagement in local conservation efforts.

We as a conservation community must take a position against unrestrained mitigation outside of the region where development has impacted species and habitat. And we must identify, protect, and properly manage local open spaces and habitat fragments to ensure they remain suitable for wildlife.

You were behind every single success Urban Bird Foundation had over the last year. Standing together, we

will continue to protect local birds, preserve open spaces, and save burrowing owls across the country. Together, we:

- Testified at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, which helped get the Florida burrowing owl listed as state threatened.
- Partnered with the Sierra Club and Banning Ranch Conservancy to set a California Coastal Commission precedent that increased the protection for migratory raptor habitat in Southern California.
- Delivered a mixed-use proposal to establish Napa County's first brick and mortar wildlife rescue and rehabilitation center.
- Fielded more than 1,800 calls for wildlife and habitat help and emergencies, provided field-learning experiences to 600 children, and protected or restored 89 acres of urban habitat.

We're honored to be a part of this forward-thinking community of birders, conservationists, community advocates, and you, the donors and volunteers, who make it possible.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Scott Artis'. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a large initial 'S' and 'A'.

Scott Artis
Executive Director



investing in communities

3,250 children
field and nature learning experiences



10,163 acres
protected or restored



7,000 calls
responded to for habitat
loss and wildlife rescues



1 species listed
on Florida's Endangered and
Threatened Species List

Conservation success since 2008



florida burrowing owl listed as state threatened!

On November 16, 2016, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWC) approved the staff recommendation to upgrade the status of the Florida burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia floridana*) from Species of Special Concern to state Threatened on Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species List.

During the FFWC meeting, Urban Bird Foundation partnered with South Florida Audubon Society, testified, and delivered support for upgrading Florida burrowing owls to Threatened status, our pledge of support and collaboration, and our endorsement of burrowing owl conservation recommendations.

Identified threats to the Florida burrowing owl include:

- Loss of native habitat and the resulting dependence on altered habitat.
- Lack of protected habitat, even for rural burrowing owls.
- Lure of potentially hazardous habitat, such as predevelopment activities (vegetation clearing) resulting in sites that mimic native habitat of the burrowing owl.
- Urban area threats, including vehicle collision, predation or injury by domestic animals, and burrow destruction by mowers or other equipment.

**a WIN for
burrowing owls**

■ visit urbanbird.org and burrowingowlconservation.org to learn more

critical wintering habitat saved

Urban Bird and partners successfully prevent the loss of burrowing owl wintering and foraging habitat in Newport Beach, California

Urban Bird Foundation in coordination with leading organizations Sierra Club Angeles Chapter and Banning Ranch Conservancy successfully prevented the loss of burrowing owl wintering and foraging habitat in the Banning Ranch area of Newport Beach, California. In a hearing on September 7, 2016, the California Coastal Commission upheld staff burrowing owl habitat protection recommendations and voted to deny the Banning Ranch development proposal that planned for the construction of 895 homes, a hotel, and shops on the Southern California coast. The approval of this project would have destroyed open space and eliminated critical burrowing owl habitat in Orange County.

After championing increased environmentally sensitive habitat area designations for Banning Ranch burrowing owls, the conservation organizations learned on August 25, 2016 that their efforts were successful when the California Coastal Commission issued a revised report that identified 64 acres of burrowing owl burrow and foraging habitat. The original Coastal Commission report identified only 1.5 acres and would have effectively eradicated the wintering owl habitat.

“We are celebrating this incredible victory for California’s declining burrowing owl population,” said Scott Artis, Executive Director of Urban Bird Foundation. “Since the state is considered one of the most important wintering grounds for migratory burrowing owls, it is imperative to protect the foraging and over-wintering habitat along Southern California’s coast.”



napa county's first wildlife rescue center



Plan includes environmental community center, wetland mitigation & wildlife hospital

Urban Bird Foundation joined the American Canyon Clarke Ranch Master Plan process as a stakeholder with the goal of establishing a wildlife rescue hospital.

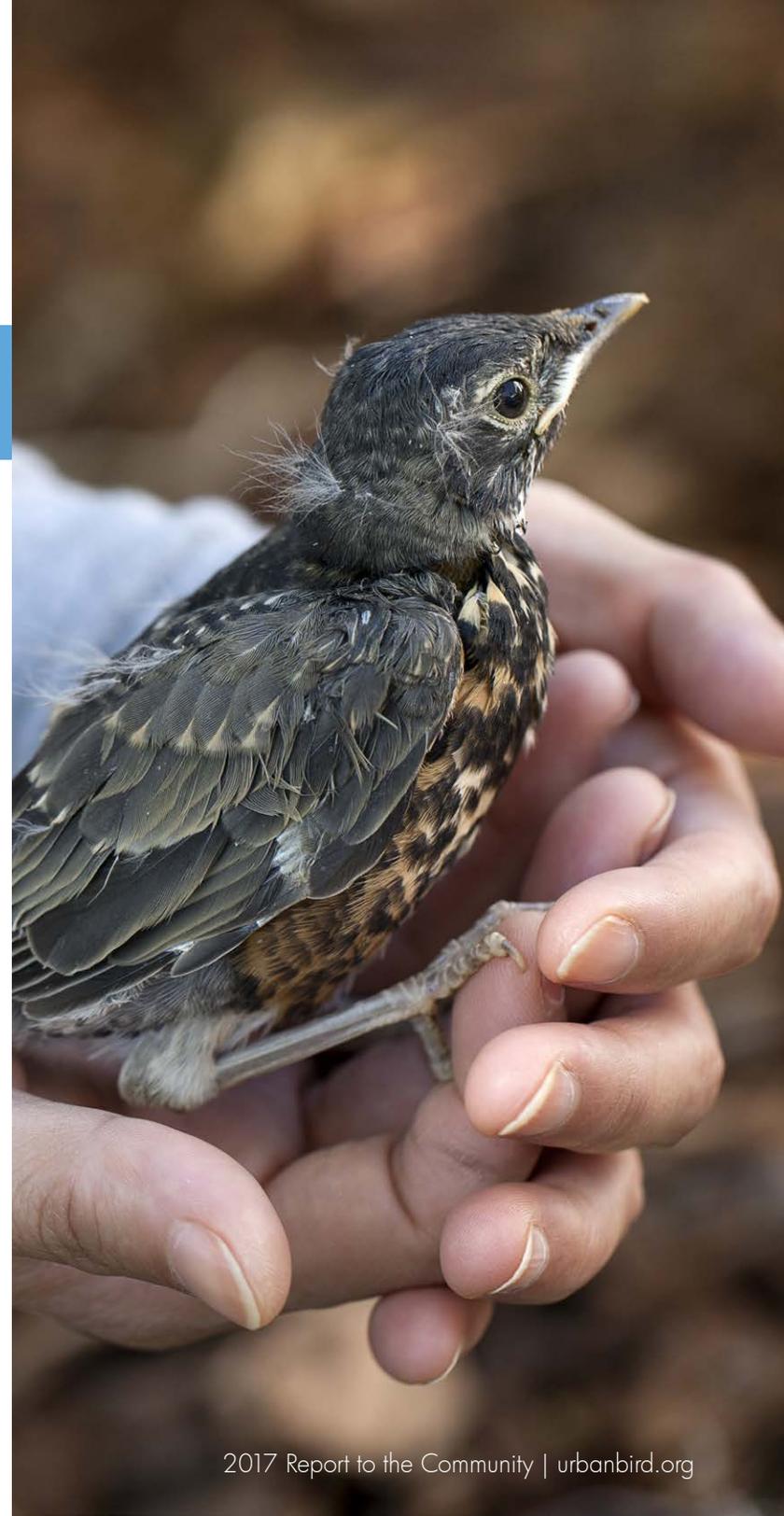
On December 12, 2016, Urban Bird Foundation delivered a mixed-use proposal that supports maintaining the current open space for the benefit of wildlife, residents, and the Napa River and Bay Trail visitors, and building a wildlife rescue center – the first brick and mortar hospital and rehabilitation facility to treat injured wildlife in Napa County.

The adjacent Napa River Bay Trail and open space provides great views of the wetlands and constructed ponds as well as public access to the Napa River. The site provides habitat to hundreds of wildlife species including burrowing owl, river otters, and migrating shorebirds, and through a system of trails offers recreational opportunities like hiking, birdwatching, photography, cycling, and on-leash dog walking.



In September 2017, a preferred master plan was selected that includes a wildlife rescue center, an environmental and community center, and expanded wetland mitigation. The final plan will be taken to the American Canyon City Council for consideration of final adoption in October 2017.

Urban Bird is confident the city will adopt the final proposal - a plan that will increase protections for local wildlife, environmental education, and volunteerism.



more than wildlife conservation

From lost dogs to abandoned domestic ducks to neglected farm animals, Urban Bird takes action for all animals in need that we encounter while accomplishing our mission and in the field. Our goal is to inspire others to join our efforts and make a positive impact for all animals, wildlife, and people.



Worked with Napa County Sheriff's Office to protect this neglected sheep found while conducting a suburban bird survey.



This family of scared, thirsty domestic ducks was found wandering the streets during an evening owl survey. Abandoned during sweltering heat, we discovered the ducks approaching people for help.

geographic reach

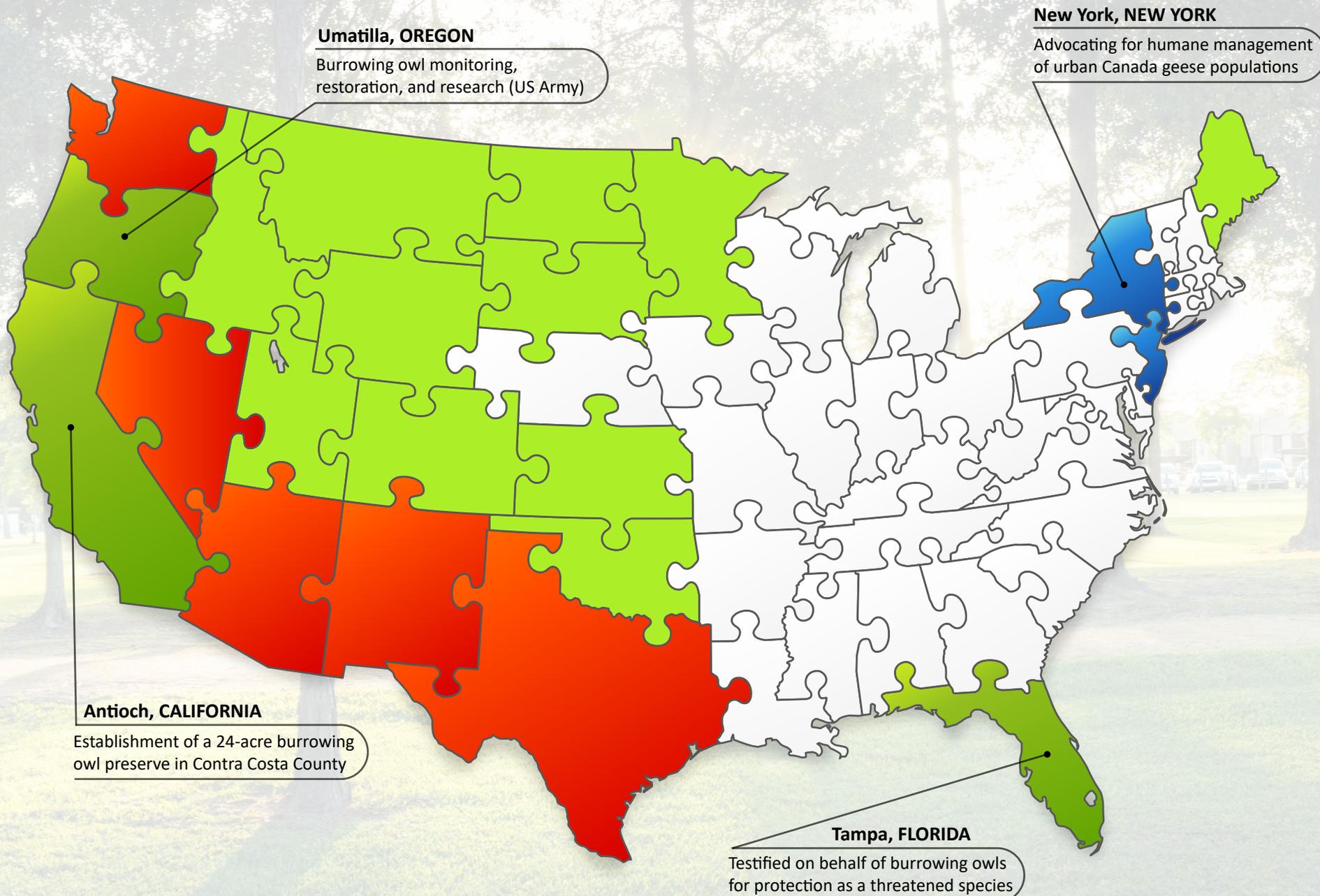
connecting communities across
the country

Urban Bird Foundation is active at every level — conserving birds and open spaces and reversing an unsustainable trend that is driving a wedge between our children and nature.

Birds, wildlife, and green spaces are essential to a healthy community. If we are to ***meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs***, then we simply cannot ignore the health, environmental, and social benefits of suburban and urban preserves and open spaces as well as their value in maintaining native bird populations.

Since 2008, our work has expanded beyond the San Francisco Bay Area and across the United States, including international partnerships with organizations, national parks, and agencies in Canada, Argentina, and Aruba. A few of these projects are highlighted on the map.

-  **Burrowing owl conservation and research, habitat protection and restoration, urban native bird preservation, human-wildlife conflict mitigation**
-  **Burrowing owl collaborations and partnership projects**
-  **Burrowing owl citizen engagement sighting projects**
-  **Canada geese advocacy and protection, human-wildlife conflict mitigation program**



burrow watch

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION - a direct role in the protection of burrowing owls in and adjacent to urban and suburban communities...your community!



With the help of dedicated volunteers, we monitor burrowing owls and their wintering and breeding habitat in and adjacent to urban and suburban communities. Through our Burrow Watch volunteer program, development projects, open spaces, and unintentional reserves are routinely monitored to ensure proper and innovative conservation solutions are implemented, adherence to state and federal wildlife laws, and to champion preservation of habitat within our communities that is accessible to both people and wildlife.



Learn more about volunteering
at URBANBIRD.ORG

challenging the status quo

our innovative conservation strategy is one that emphasizes preserving species in place

We work to conserve one of the most important and impactful places on the planet — your community! This is a place where you live, work, relax and educate your children. Our team is active at every level — conserving birds and open spaces and reversing an unsustainable trend that is driving a wedge between our children and nature. Simply put, we want to protect habitat and wildlife in and surrounding our communities.

■ Burrowing Owl Conservation

Urban Bird combines hands-on advocacy, research, education, and progressive burrowing owl and habitat management policies to reverse a trend that currently promotes extirpation. We are creating an imperative for conservation in which cities and counties embrace sustainable development for the benefit of their burrowing owls.

■ Integrated Nature

Urban Bird champions, enhances, and helps create mixed-use green spaces in communities that serve as educational opportunities, community resources, and native habitat. We simply cannot ignore the health, environmental, and social benefits of open spaces as well as their value in maintaining native bird and wildlife populations.

■ Building Coalitions

The Communities of Action program connects community and civic leaders to one another so they can share ideas, foster sustainably planned cities, and create green space results. The program brings together professionals with on-the-ground experience to advance innovative practices for protecting, restoring, and creating urban preserves

■ Conservation Policy

Sound planning and public policy is critical to the success of long-term bird conservation efforts in our communities, region, and nation. Urban Bird works to secure transformative change at the local and national level; partnering with and advocating for governments and agencies to protect birds, urban habitats, and the natural resources we all need.



our team



URBAN BIRD FOUNDATION STAFF

Scott Artis
Executive Director

Larry Jordan
Director of Strategic Initiatives

Heather Brust
Project Manager

Connie Stober
Volunteer Coordinator

Our Volunteers
Thanks to all our volunteers

ADVISORY BOARD

Lynne Trulio, Ph.D.
San Jose State University

Greg Clark
Partners in Flight

Pamela Flick
Defenders of Wildlife

Stephanie Artis
Roseville Unified School District

Bob Fox
Wild at Heart

Sean Dulany
Team Freeplay

Samantha Fox
Wild at Heart

thanks to our amazing supporters & partners

----- PARTNERSHIPS and COLLABORATIONS -----

Global Owl Project
Defenders of Wildlife
Earth Island Institute
Sonoma Land Trust
Placer Land Trust
Mount Diablo Audubon Society
Nature Saskatchewan
Sonoma Nature
Bay Area Open Space Council
Sierra Club
Banning Ranch Conservancy
South Florida Audubon Society
Conservation Corps North Bay

Burrowing Owl Preservation Society
Friends of Marsh Creek
California Natural Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Wildlife
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Oregon Fish and Wildlife
California Conservation Corps
US Army
Army Corps of Engineers
City of Antioch
City of Fairfield
Center for Land-based Learning
Boy Scouts of America

2015-2016 Finances

REVENUES and SUPPORT

Grants	\$ 46,400
Contributions and Contributed Services	\$ 89,734
Other Income	\$ 901

Total Revenues & Support \$137,035

OPERATING EXPENSES

Program Services	\$119,654
Admin & General	\$ 5,376
Fund Development	\$ 6,458

Total Operating Expenses \$131,488

OPERATING EXPENSE ALLOCATION

Direct Program Support	91.0%
Management & General Operations	4.1%
Fund Development	4.9%

URBAN BIRD FOUNDATION is a fiscally sponsored organization of Earth Island Institute, a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

Earth Island Institute's audited financial statements and annual reports are available upon request and also available at earthisland.org.

*Statement of activities for year ending
June 30, 2017*

2017 Report to the Community | urbanbird.org





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