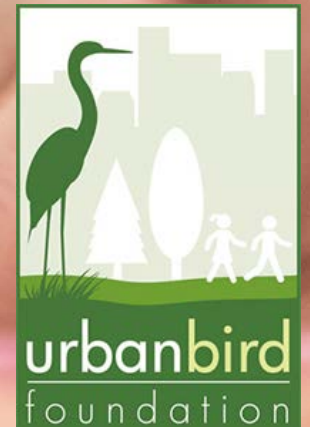


birds. people. communities.

2019

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.

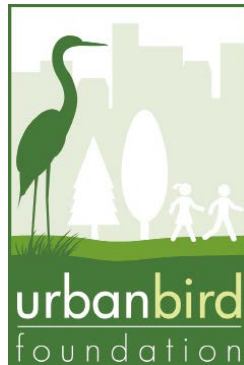
At Urban Bird, we understand the issues and have bold, innovative, and science-based solutions that are beneficial for bird populations, wildlife, publicly accessible open spaces, education, and human health.

Mission and Vision

Urban Bird's mission is to conserve urban and suburban birds to 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,

Over the last year, I've had time to reflect on where Urban Bird Foundation has been and where we are now headed... together.

I realized that for the organization to achieve the next level, it was time to stretch our wings and fledge from Earth Island Institute – an organization that has supported our work and served as our fiscal sponsor since 2010. It's been an exciting transition that began in 2018 and has been completed as of November 2019.

More importantly, during this evolution we thought about what makes us unique in bird conservation – answering the question that sets us apart from other incredible groups. There's a lot of bird and wildlife organizations doing great work and we've partnered with many of them. But, we're not your typical organization and we are certainly not a big box nonprofit with tens or hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue.

We're a scrappy grassroots organization not afraid to ruffle feathers. We're the bulldog large organizations have helped behind the scenes to get a job done that might otherwise have upset politicians or their corporate partners. We're the ones employees leak information to when agencies and companies fail to follow environmental laws. We're the ones who believe nature needs to be protected in our communities and not outsourced far away to mitigation banks out of convenience or for money.

We're not here for politics, either. We call out administrations, corporations and local governments equally. And we are just as quick to praise any of the above when it's deserved. We're here for one thing and one thing only, bird conservation.

To save birds, we conduct undercover operations, rescue injured birds, stand down bulldozers, watchdog development sites, create habitat from unlikely sources, and field calls for help from across the entire United States. Our business is birds and wildlife. That's it!

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 our victories possible.

So, let's be scrappy together and save some wildlife in 2020.

With gratitude,

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Scott Artis'.

Scott Artis
Executive Director



investing in communities

3,400 children
field and nature learning experiences



10,178 acres
protected or restored



8,150 calls
responded to for habitat
loss and wildlife rescues



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

Conservation success since 2008

A white egret stands in the center-left of the frame, facing left. It is surrounded by a large pile of plastic waste, including crumpled blue and red plastic bags, and other debris. The background is a blurred field of similar waste. The right side of the image is a white curved area containing text.

URGING EPA TO REDUCE PLASTIC EMISSIONS

Urban Bird Foundation joined 364 environmental, public health, indigenous, labor and community non-governmental organizations in petitioning the Environmental Protection Agency to revise the Clean Air Act standards applicable to petro-plastics production facilities.

The signing organizations requested the EPA to control emissions of criteria pollutants and hazardous air pollutants from stationary sources that manufacture plastics precursors and resins as required under Sections 111 and 112 of the Clean Air Act. Specifically, Petitioners urge EPA to promptly review and revise the New Source Performance Standards and National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants that apply to the manufacture of plastic precursors and plastic resins.

“It’s absolutely incredible that with recent reports highlighting the drastic decline and plight of bird populations across the country and world that we are willing to put avian biodiversity at further risk so the petrochemical industry can embark on a massive expansion of plastics facilities,” said Scott Artis, Executive Director of Urban Bird Foundation. “I simply don’t see a reason to jeopardize wildlife, nearby ecosystems, surrounding communities, and the climate by allowing air pollution and GHG emissions from these plants to skyrocket.”

Urban Bird Foundation will be launching a campaign in 2020 to further address plastic pollution impacts on birds.

endangered species recovery

Urban Bird addresses Senate Committee on Appropriations to provide critical endangered bird USFWS funding

Urban Bird Foundation petitioned the Senate Committee on Appropriations to provide the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with the critical funding the agency desperately requires for endangered bird conservation and recovery.

In May 2019, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service (IPBES) released a landmark global assessment that alarmingly concluded that “around 1 million species already face extinction, many within decades, unless action is taken to reduce the intensity of drivers to biodiversity loss.”

The report, backed by the United Nations and more than 130 countries around the world, reviewed around 15,000 scientific and government sources and drew from indigenous and local knowledge. It is the most comprehensive document ever prepared on the status and trends of biodiversity.

Fortunately, the United States arguably has the strongest conservation law in place to help combat this massive extinction crisis—the Endangered Species Act. Unfortunately, decades of underfunding by Congress have hamstrung the ability of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to recover many of the species under the care of the Act. Despite this chronic lack of funding, the law has still been incredibly successful, which is nothing short of a miraculous accomplishment and a true testament to its effectiveness. There is no question many more species could be fully recovered if Congress fully funded the Endangered Species Act.



fighting New York to save forest habitat



Cassadaga Wind's plan is to clear trees and forest habitat during bird breeding season

In an effort to protect thousands of birds migrating through, foraging in, and nesting in or near trees on a proposed wind turbine site in Chautauqua County, Urban Bird Foundation challenged the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment urging them to deny Cassadaga Wind's petition to clear trees and forest habitat between April 1 and November 1.

"Destroying forest habitat during breeding season to save money is not an acceptable reason to impact the more than 70 species of resident and migratory birds observed at the project site," said Scott Artis, Executive Director of Urban Bird Foundation.

More than 8 raptor species will have already returned and begun nesting using trees in the forested areas. Many other species subject to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act will have returned to the area, including Wood Thrush, and numerous species of warblers. The destruction of trees limits the availability of nest sites for those species that nest in trees. It is important to note that loss of trees is not the only negative impact, as the process of cutting and clearing trees by people, vehicles, and machinery (e.g. chainsaws) creates loud sounds that disturbs and disrupts critical courtship and nesting behavior in forests and along their edges.

The project pathway crosses Partners in Flight Physiographic Area 24, and includes 4 Important Bird Areas recognized with global and state priorities. These areas have been identified as providing:

- Important stopover location for migrant birds
- A major spring hawk concentration area
- Important migration corridor for nocturnal passerines
- And supporting breeding species at risk, including the Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, and Redheaded Woodpecker (confirmed breeders)





looking forward to 2020

Urban Bird Foundation has been busy laying the foundation for some incredible campaigns in the coming year...and doubling down on what makes us unique amongst all other bird conservation organizations.

Here are a few projects you can expect from us in 2020.

Litterbirds Campaign

Reduce the impacts to birds from plastics and trash in communities.

Urban Wildlife Defense Campaign

Defend increasing threats to birds and wildlife in urbanized environments.

Bird and Wildlife Rescue Websites

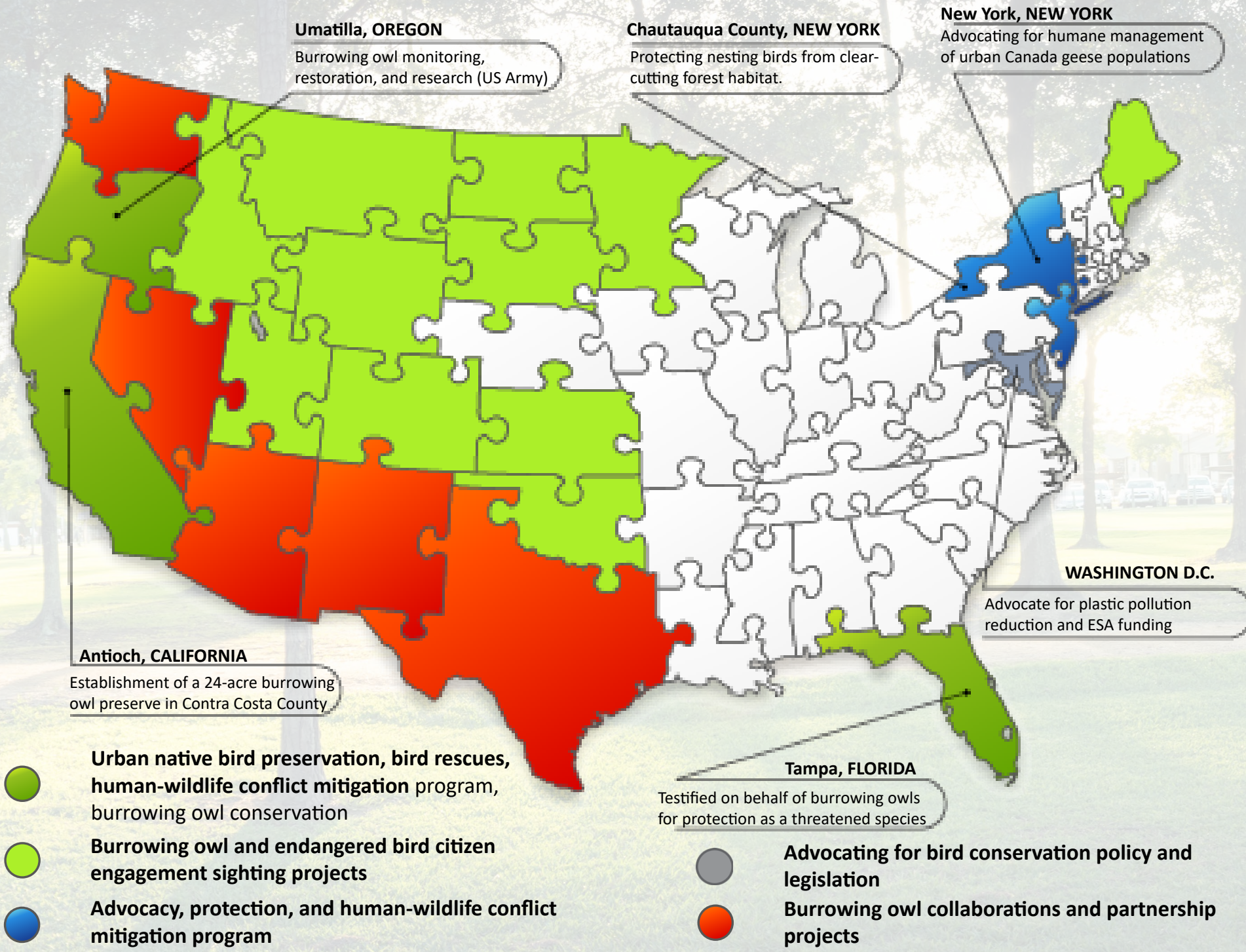
Launching dedicated websites to help “you” properly care for and aid in the rescue of injured wildlife.

Adopt an Owl Program

Giving you a chance to support our bird and owl conservation through a symbolic adoption.

geographic reach

connecting communities across the country



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](https://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

Board & ADVISORY BOARD

Scott Artis, MA
President

Heather Brust
Treasurer & Secretary

Lynne Trulio, Ph.D.
San Jose State University

Pamela Flick
Defenders of Wildlife

Bob Fox
Wild at Heart

Samantha Fox
Wild at Heart

Greg Clark
Partners in Flight

Stephanie Styczinski
Roseville Unified School District

Sean Dulany
Team Freeplay

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
CA 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

2019 Finances

REVENUES and SUPPORT

Grants	\$ 42,762
Contributions and Contributed Services	\$ 90,652

Total Revenues & Support	\$133,414
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OPERATING EXPENSES

Program Services	\$118,344
Admin & General	\$ 6,152
Fund Development	\$ 5,553

Total Operating Expenses	\$130,049
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OPERATING EXPENSE ALLOCATION

Direct Program Support	91.0%
Management & General Operations	4.7%
Fund Development	4.3%

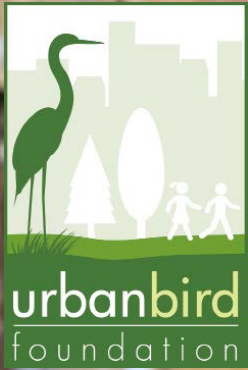
URBAN BIRD FOUNDATION is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax-deductible as allowable by law.

Tax ID: 83-0675132

*Statement of activities for year ending
December 31, 2019*

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Urban Bird Foundation

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