

# North American Bird Conservation Initiative

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*A Collaboration of Partners for Bird Conservation*

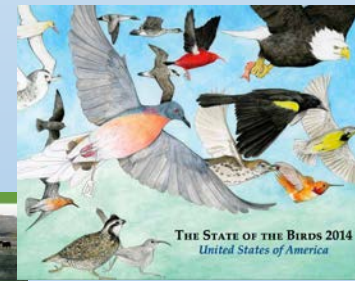
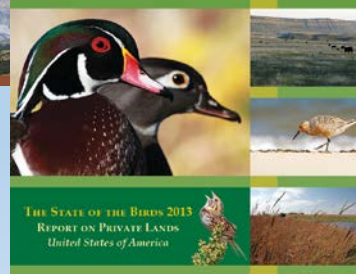
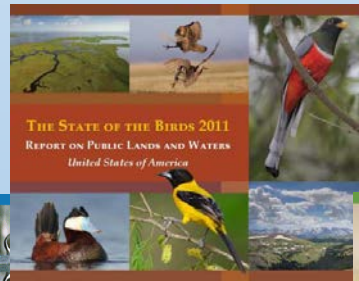
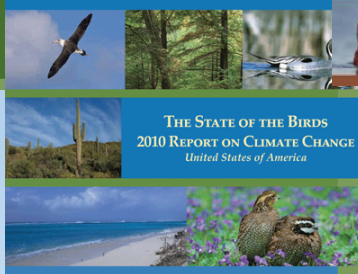
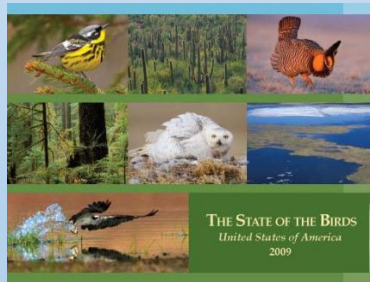
## State of the Birds: 2018

**Ken Rosenberg, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ABC**  
**Tom Moorman, Ducks Unlimited**



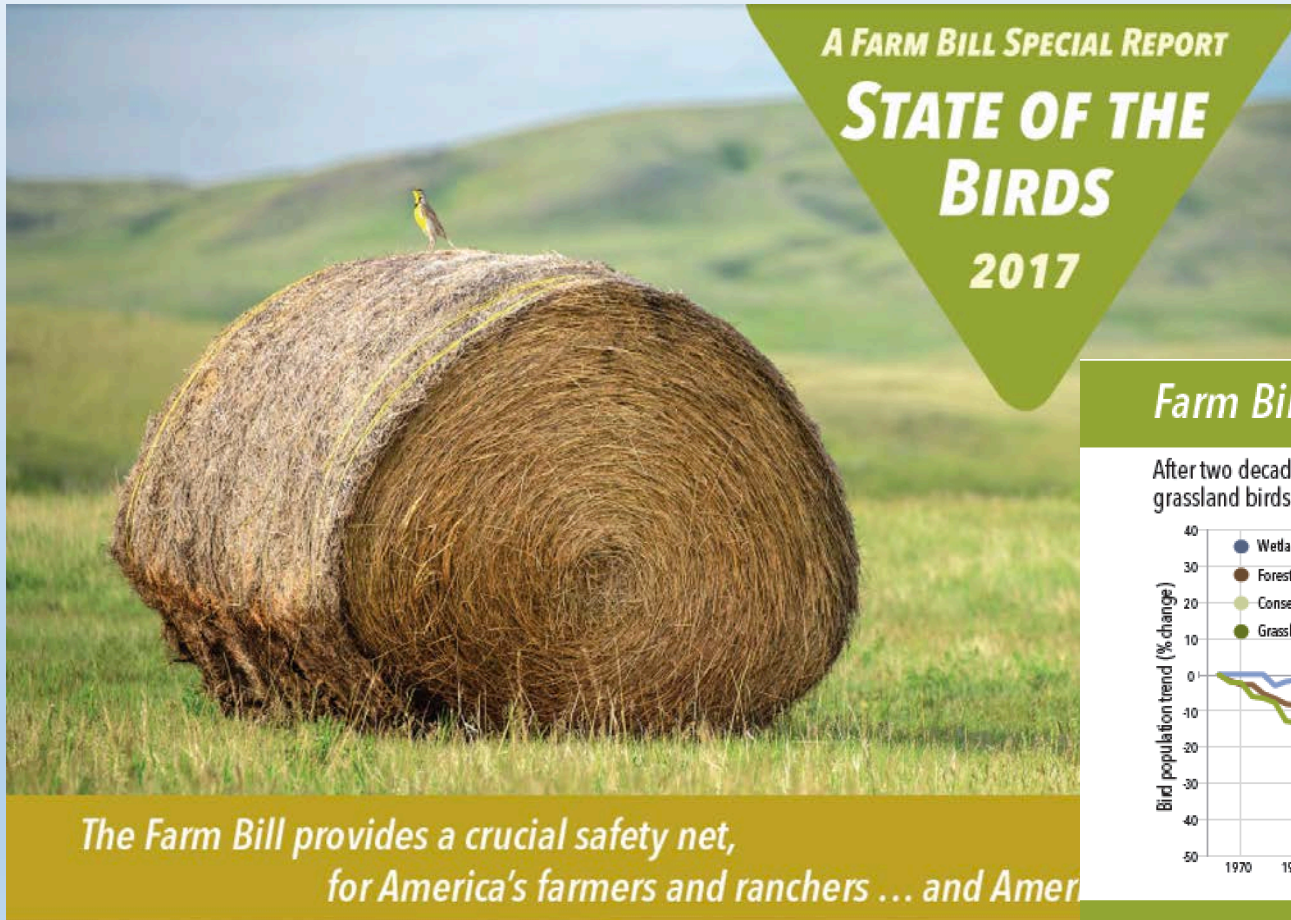
# State of the Birds Reports

- Initiated in 2009: DOI Directive
- Status of U.S. Bird Populations (/5 year)
- Birds – Bellwethers of Ecological and Cultural Health
- Relevant Issues and Policy Outcomes



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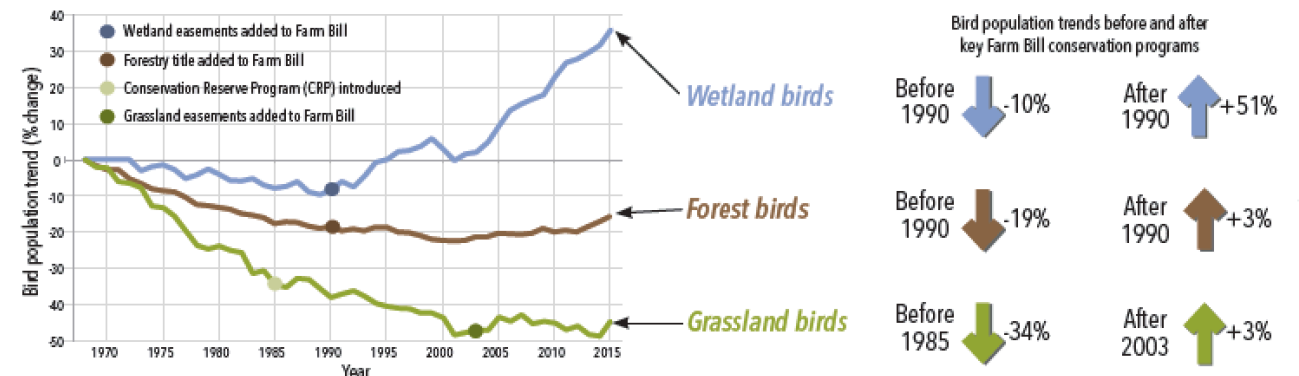
# SOTB 2017: Farm Bill Special Report



- Release August 3, 2017
- Capital Hill Briefing, Oct 2017
- 4 Priorities for Farm Bill Conservation

## Farm Bill conservation programs reverse bird population declines

After two decades of declines, wetland bird populations grew dramatically—and forest and grassland birds stabilized—following the introduction of key Farm Bill conservation programs.



## Conservation priorities for the next Farm Bill



# State of the Birds: 2018?

- **Critical Role of Federal and State Governments** in Bird Conservation
  - e.g., Flyway Councils – shared responsibility
  - Many other partnerships engage state capacity – Joint Ventures, Farm Bill biologists, etc.
- **Recovering America's Wildlife Act** (Blue Ribbon Panel)
  - Increase capacity of state wildlife agencies
  - Enable intentional, focused management and conservation
    - waterfowl, turkeys, eagles....examples of successful efforts (Thanks Bob!)



Wood Duck



Gr. Sage-Grouse



'Akohe'kohe



Blue Ribbon Panel



# State of the Birds: 2018?

- New Science Highlights **Urgency** and **Magnitude of Challenge**
- *Net Population Loss* of **2.3 billion native land birds** since 1970
- Net Loss in **ALL habitats**; largest in Grasslands and Boreal Forest
- 50% of Loss—10 most **abundant and widespread species**
- Efforts by Agencies to Reverse Declines — **Insufficient, funding strapped**
- LOTS of **Successful Conservation Examples** to build on - Partnerships



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# State of the Birds: 2018?

- Relevancy – fundamental issue for states and all partners
- Broader messaging for state and federal agencies
- Link to continental Grassland Birds initiative?
- Year of the Bird/ Relevancy message: “Why Birds Matter”
- Engage NABCI Legislative and Policy, Communications, HD



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# State of the Birds: 2018?

- **Seek engagement** and buy-in from all states
  - AFWA BCC support and recommendation to Directors?
  - Underway – presented to all Flyway Non-game bird tech sections (CF still to come)
- **Bird Science** – demonstrates clear and present need – Cornell study
- **Partnership** – state-federal-NGO examples demonstrate successes – delivery mechanisms
- **RAWA funding** - state staffing and program capacity, SWAPs
  - Programs, science, partnerships, etc.
- **4-8 page report** –potential 1 page insert for all states
- Summer (July?) timeline; **release report in fall 2018**



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Photo by Glenn Bartley/VIREO