

FY2027 - American Bird Conservancy Appropriations Priorities



Common Loon with chick by Enrique Aguirre

Endangered Species Recovery | USFWS, NPS, USGS, BLM

Amidst a loss of 3 billion North American birds, dozens of bird species are declining at an especially alarming rate. Each has unique habitat needs and faces different threats, but solutions tailored to the recovery of each species are being put in place by dedicated conservationists. Additional funds are needed to keep species like the Red Knot, Lesser Prairie-Chicken, Marbled Murrelet, Sage-Grouse, and Hawaiian forest birds from reaching the point of no return.

Agency	Program	FY26 Final (millions)	FY27 ABC Recommendation (millions)
USFWS, NPS, USGS	Hawaiian ESA Recovery	\$10.75	\$20
USFWS	Red Knot Recovery	\$0	\$5
USFWS	Lesser Prairie-Chicken Recovery	\$0	\$5
USFWS, NMFS	Marbled Murrelet Recovery	\$0	\$5
BLM	Sage-Grouse Conservation	\$73	\$73

Pesticide Licensing and Toxics | EPA and USFWS

Pesticides are a major threat to birds, their food sources, and their habitat. To protect birds from toxic pesticides and comply with the Endangered Species Act, ABC recommends fully funding the EPA Office of Pesticide Programs and increasing funding for the USFWS Pesticide Consultation branch. Additionally, to reduce the risk of lead toxicity to wildlife, ABC recommends continued support and increased funding for the USFWS's Voluntary Lead-Free Incentive Program on National Wildlife Refuges.

Agency	Program	FY26 Final (millions)	FY27 ABC Recommendation (millions)
EPA	Pesticides Licensing	\$121.50	\$130
USFWS	ESA Pesticide Consultations	\$2.50	\$4
USFWS	Voluntary Non-lead Ammunition Incentives	\$1	\$5



Marine Conservation | EPA and NOAA

Seabirds depend on healthy marine habitats. We recommend funding the EPA's Trash Free Waters program, under the Ensure Clean Water funding line, which advances clean ups, education, and research on pollution. Likewise, we recommend increased funding for the National Seabird Program, and collaboration across NOAA programs to mitigate seabird bycatch.

Agency	Program	FY26 Final (millions)	FY27 ABC Recommendation (millions)
EPA	Ensure Clean Water	\$2	\$2.5
NOAA	National Seabird Program/Seabird Bycatch Technical Assistance	\$0	\$10

Migratory Bird Protection | USFWS

By addressing threats to birds in the wild, hundreds of species can be protected for generations to come. ABC's work protecting migratory birds from threats can be better supported by increasing funding for mitigation and permitting under the MBTA; increasing funding for habitat conservation under the NMBCA; and funding improvements and retrofits of federal buildings to reduce threats from window collisions.

Agency	Program	FY26 Final (millions)	FY27 ABC Recommendation (millions)
USFWS	MBTA Incidental Take Mitigation	\$0	\$10
USFWS	NMBCA	\$5	\$6.5
USFWS	Window Collision Mitigation	\$0	\$10

Migratory Bird Joint Ventures | USFWS

The national network of Joint Ventures (JVs) is essential to address the conservation needs of migratory birds. To help reverse bird declines, we recommend an increase in overall JV funding.

Agency	Program	FY26 Final (millions)	FY27 ABC Recommendation (millions)
USFWS	Migratory Bird Joint Ventures	\$17.10	\$21

Critical Scientific Research | USGS

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) conducts research, monitoring, analysis, and mapping of natural resources. Critically for birds, USGS operates the Bird Banding Lab (BBL), which along with other programs, advances bird science and information sharing.

Agency	Program	FY26 Final (millions)	FY27 ABC Recommendation (millions)
USGS	Bird Banding Lab	\$307	\$307
USGS	Ecosystem Management Area	\$295	\$299
USGS	Cooperative Research Units	\$28.20	\$28.20

