Audubon has had a presence in the State of Utah for many years. Our work here is reflected through a network of organizations that share a common interest in the conservation and appreciation of birds. Included are four affiliated Audubon chapters, Utah Audubon Council, and National Audubon Society.

AUDUBON CHAPTERS AND COUNCIL

Audubon chapters are independent, nonprofit organizations affiliated with Audubon. Chapters enable Audubon members and others to meet and share an appreciation of their common interests. They create a natural gathering point that fosters a culture of conservation in local communities through education and advocacy, focusing on the conservation of birds, other wildlife and important habitats. The Utah chapters are led by volunteer Board of Directors. Chapters provide programs on bird identification, field trips, and work on bird and habitat conservation projects across the state.

Great Salt Lake Audubon, founded in 1912, is the oldest conservation organization in Utah and is “dedicated to protecting, enhancing and maintaining healthy habitats for birds, wildlife, plants and to maintaining healthy and diverse environments for wildlife and people throughout the state.” Great Salt Lake Audubon hosts volunteer opportunities, seminars, educational field trips, urban riparian restoration and guest speakers. www.greatsaltlakeaudubon.org

Wasatch Audubon Society in Ogden is an “association of people who share an interest in birds, all natural things, and Utah’s varied habitat.” Wasatch Audubon focuses on education about wildlife and the natural environment; fostering appreciate of wildlife and ecological principles; promoting opportunities for the public to see and appreciate birds and habitats, and influencing policy toward a conservation ethic. www.wasatchaudubon.org

Bridgerland Audubon Society, based in Logan, has a mission to “conserve, enhance, and enjoy the natural environment with special emphasis on birds and their habitats for the benefit and education of humanity and for the biological diversity of the Earth.” Among its efforts, it manages the 156-acre Amalga Barrens Sanctuary which includes one mile of open water for waterfowl and wading birds. To learn more about this chapter visit: http://bridgerlandaudubon.org

Red Cliffs Audubon, based in St. George, is focused on education, public awareness, and protection of birds, wildlife and habitat in southwest Utah. In addition to hosting field trips and special presentations throughout the year, Red Cliffs Audubon partners with Utah Division of Wildlife Resources to host the annual St. George Winter Bird Festival every January. To learn more about this chapter visit: http://redcliffsaudubon.org

The Utah Audubon Council is a coalition of the four Audubon chapters in the state. The Council supports a legislative advocate who tracks state policy on a range of issues including water, wildlife, public lands, parks and recreation, and other environmental topics.
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

The National Audubon Society protects birds and the places they need, today and tomorrow. Audubon works throughout the Americas using science, advocacy, education, and on-the-ground conservation. State programs, nature centers, chapters, and partners give Audubon an unparalleled wingspan that reaches millions of people each year to inform, inspire, and unite diverse communities in conservation action. A nonprofit conservation organization since 1905, Audubon believes in a world in which people and wildlife thrive. www.audubon.org

Saline Lakes Program

The Saline Lakes Program is part of Audubon’s Western Water Initiative, focused on advancing balanced solutions for water use to ensure that the birds, ecosystems, people and the economies that rely on water resources can benefit. Based in Salt Lake City, staff are working on saline lake issues throughout the Intermountain West. In Utah, the program is building on Audubon’s rich history to advance water management solutions for people that also benefit birds and their habitat. https://www.audubon.org/conservation/project/saline-lakes

Audubon Rockies

Audubon Rockies is a regional office of National Audubon Society, headquartered in Fort Collins, Colorado. Utah became part of Audubon Rockies in 2019, which already included Wyoming and Colorado. Audubon Rockies works with Audubon members in Utah and alongside the chapters and Council. The core programs are Gillmor Sanctuary, Community Naturalist, Habitat Hero, Western Rivers Initiative, Conservation Ranching Initiative, and the Sagebrush Ecosystem Initiative. https://rockies.audubon.org

Gillmor Sanctuary and South Shore Preserve

For more than 20 years Audubon has owned and managed the Edward L. and Charles F. Gillmor Sanctuary on the southern shoreline of Great Salt Lake. Gillmor Sanctuary is part of the 3,184-acre South Shore Preserve, which Audubon also manages. The preserve provides essential nesting and migratory habitat for millions of birds, including shorebirds, waterfowl, and upland species. In addition, rights to about 3,000 acre-feet of water per year have been permanently secured to restore productive bird habitat by delivering water at the right times and places. https://rockies.audubon.org/gillmor

Important Bird Areas

Audubon works with BirdLife International to coordinate the Important Bird Area (IBA) program in the United States to identify and help guide conservation actions for the most important places for bird populations. Utah is home to 22 IBAs, determined via robust, science-based criteria. Audubon organizations work in partnership with landowners, state and federal agencies, other conservation organizations and academia to propose and evaluate potential locations. Utah’s IBAs include: 12 global priority sites encompassing 3,479,280 acres and 10 State priority sites totaling 79,058 acres that are significant for biodiversity and birds. https://www.audubon.org/important-bird-areas

A large proportion of the world’s population of Wilson’s Phalarope use the Great Salt Lake for some part of their life cycle. Photo: Tim Timmis/Audubon Photography Awards