



Losing precious Alaskan wetlands to encroachment and resource development will cause irreversible harm to waterfowl populations in the West. But DU is working diligently to protect these critical wetlands before they require restoration, through The Alaska Initiative—Born to Fly.



**THE ALASKA INITIATIVE—BORN TO FLY
NEEDS YOU NOW**

Your gift will make a difference. Every dollar you give to Ducks Unlimited is leveraged many times over to create a conservation impact far beyond your initial gift. And be assured that more than 80 cents of every dollar received is invested directly in our conservation mission. Through your support, you can make a difference right now for waterfowl and people, this generation and those to come. Join us in *Banding Together for Waterfowl*. Help us *Rescue Our Wetlands* today.

Don't wait.
Call DU at **(360) 885-2011** today to speak with fundraising staff in your area.



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**THE ALASKA INITIATIVE—
BORN TO FLY**



**PROTECTING ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST PRISTINE LANDSCAPES FOR
BREEDING AND BROOD-REARING WATERFOWL—THE VAST WETLANDS
AND RIVER DELTAS OF THE ALASKAN WILDERNESS**

Alaska is home to some of the most expansive, unspoiled wetlands on earth. Each year, they provide an ideal cradle that nurtures 15-20 percent of the entire U.S. waterfowl population in one of the most important breeding and brood-rearing areas in the Pacific Flyway. Waterfowl produced here also travel to North America's three other flyways.

Losing these precious Alaskan wetlands to encroachment, resource development, and other degradation will cause irreversible harm to waterfowl populations in the West. But Ducks Unlimited is working diligently to protect wetlands before they require restoration. Using the most sophisticated mapping

technology available, DU has successfully mapped some 200 million acres in Alaska, enabling collaboration with state and federal agencies and industry partners to create realistic and comprehensive management plans.

These mapping projects require substantial funding, but the sum is far less than the costs of restoration. Ducks Unlimited's ability to continue and grow these critical mapping efforts depends heavily on the financial support of individuals who share our commitment to wetlands, waterfowl, other wildlife, and our outdoor heritage, through The Alaska Initiative—Born to Fly.



THE ALASKA INITIATIVE—BORN TO FLY IMPACT

The Alaska Initiative—Born To Fly is a crucial part of Ducks Unlimited's *Rescue Our Wetlands* Campaign, a seven-year, \$2-billion effort aimed at changing the face of conservation in North America. *Rescue Our Wetlands* is the largest wetlands and waterfowl conservation campaign in history.

Protecting one of the world's most pristine landscapes for breeding and brood-rearing waterfowl, the Alaska Initiative—Born To Fly focuses on the vast wetlands and river deltas of the Alaskan wilderness that provide a home for millions of waterfowl each year.

INITIATIVE STATES

Alaska

INITIATIVE GOALS:

Your contribution toward the Alaska Initiative—Born To Fly is part of the *Rescue Our Wetlands* Wintering and Migration Landscapes target of **\$484 million**.

Supporting the Alaska Initiative is pivotal in fulfilling DU's vision of wetlands sufficient to fill the skies with waterfowl today, tomorrow and forever. Visit www.ducks.org/rescue for details.

MAXIMIZING THE POWER OF A DOLLAR

In many instances, your conservation investment allows DU to leverage your gift with other private, public, and contractual funds, sometimes matching it as many as seven or eight times.

DU'S FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR ALASKA

In Alaska, Ducks Unlimited is in the rare position of being able to prevent wetland loss before it happens. The majority of the state's wetlands are publicly owned, but as industrial development and housing expansion continue, wetlands inevitably will be threatened. DU will continue to concentrate on habitat mapping and working with other conservation organizations to acquire and protect additional habitat.

Ducks Unlimited is seeking your contributions to achieve our conservation goals in Alaska. Your charitable support of The Alaska Initiative—Born to Fly will enable Ducks Unlimited to conduct important science, public policy, and outreach efforts. DU's research and evaluation efforts are the foundation upon which our direct conservation programs and our policy and outreach work are based.

CROSS-BORDER CONSERVATION



Alaska's boreal forest is contiguous with that of western Canada. These boreal landscapes, as well as immense tracts at river deltas and on northern tundra, are where life begins for millions of ducks, geese, and a myriad of other migratory birds. These boreal forests are the breeding and brood-rearing grounds for a significant number of ducks and geese making the intercontinental journey down the Pacific Flyway. Unfortunately, resource development is expanding rapidly in the boreal, threatening these critical habitats.

Ducks Unlimited is working to identify and protect North America's most important boreal wetland habitats. Your generous gift to The Alaska Initiative—Born to Fly will help protect the remaining undisturbed breeding grounds for waterfowl in the United States and Canada, part of Ducks Unlimited's efforts to ensure strong populations of waterfowl across the continent. Birds don't recognize borders and neither do DU's habitat conservation efforts.



PROTECTING THE BOREAL

The Western Boreal Forest is the world's largest remaining intact, productive ecosystem. It encompasses more than a billion and a half acres of pristine forests, wetlands, lakes, rivers, and streams, and nearly 20 percent of all waterfowl are "born to fly" here.

With a portion of the boreal located in Alaska, habitat losses here would have a severe impact on the number and health of ducks, geese, and songbirds that call the Pacific Flyway home. Through your support of The Alaska Initiative—Born to Fly, Ducks Unlimited will help ensure that the vast wetlands of Alaska are protected for future generations of waterfowl, hunters, and everyone who loves the outdoors.