



Ducks Unlimited Inc., Ducks Unlimited Canada, Pew Charitable Trusts and partners are collaborating to achieve an equitable and lasting balance between protection and environmentally sensitive development in the North American Boreal Forest.



**THE BOREAL FOREST INITIATIVE  
NEEDS YOU NOW**

Your gift to Ducks Unlimited is key to our success, and it is truly the greatest contribution you can make to secure the future of wetlands and waterfowl. As always, your contribution to Ducks Unlimited is leveraged to create a conservation impact far beyond your initial gift. In addition, we invest at least 80 cents of every dollar in our conservation mission. Make a difference today for waterfowl, outdoorsmen, and future generations of wildlife and people by directing your gift to DU's Boreal Forest Initiative. Join us in *Banding Together for Waterfowl*. Help us *Rescue Our Wetlands* today.

Don't wait.  
Call DU Managing Director of Development  
Steve Schmitt at **(360) 991-7461** today to learn more  
about supporting the Boreal Forest Initiative.



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[WWW.DUCKS.ORG](http://WWW.DUCKS.ORG)

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**BOREAL FOREST  
INITIATIVE**



**PROTECT AND SUSTAIN A BILLION ACRES ON THE VAST AND PRODUCTIVE  
WATERFOWL BREEDING GROUNDS OF THE BOREAL THROUGH LONG-TERM  
INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS**

North America's Boreal Forest is the world's largest remaining intact, productive ecosystem, encompassing more than a billion and a half acres of pristine forests, wetlands, lakes, rivers and streams. A keystone habitat for the hemisphere's migratory waterfowl and songbird populations, it also supports vast populations of fish and other wildlife. Moreover, as the world's most extensive terrestrial carbon sink and largest reservoir of surface water, North America's Boreal Forest plays a critical role in regulating global climate.

Unlike the world's other great wilderness areas—such as the Amazon Rainforest or Siberian Taiga—North America's Boreal Forest is governed by two of the world's richest and most stable democracies: the United States and Canada. This makes the Boreal the best place on earth to secure large-

scale conservation and sustainable development through the proactive application of conservation science and enlightened resource management principles.

The Boreal Forest Conservation Framework was established by leading industries, First Nations, and Conservation groups, including Ducks Unlimited, in partnership with the Pew Charitable Trusts, more than a decade ago. Through this collaboration, the vast and often-remote breeding grounds of Canada and Alaska's Boreal Forest are being conserved for future generations of waterfowl, other wildlife and people. By employing a mix of protection and sustainable development, we can find a balance of conservation and development actions in the Boreal that benefits the millions of breeding waterfowl that rely on it during critical parts of their life cycle.



## BOREAL FOREST INITIATIVE IMPACT

### INITIATIVE IMPACT

The Boreal Initiative 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.

Covering the North American Boreal Forest, the Boreal Initiative focuses on protecting the ecosystem of one of world's most important breeding areas.

### INITIATIVE AREA

Boreal Canada and Alaska

### INITIATIVE GOALS

Your contribution toward the Boreal Initiative is part of the *Rescue Our Wetlands*'s Wintering and Migration Landscapes target of \$484 million.

Supporting the Boreal 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](http://www.ducks.org/rescue) for details.



## DU'S PLAN FOR THE BOREAL

Protecting the fragile Boreal ecosystem is no small task. The key objective of the Boreal Forest Conservation Framework is to conserve 1 billion acres of intact forest and wetland habitat in North America's Boreal Forest.

The framework seeks leaders of industry, First Nations, and nongovernmental agencies. Its guidelines call for at least 50 percent of the Boreal to be protected as large refuge blocks and the other half subject to world-leading environmental practices.

During the 2012-2016 initiative, the goal is to protect or sustain at least 200 million acres.

Ducks Unlimited is seeking \$20 million in charitable gifts to achieve the Boreal Forest Initiative conservation goals. Your support will enable DU to conduct important science, public policy and outreach efforts, as well as conserving the breeding habitats important to North American waterfowl.

## CROSS-BORDER CONSERVATION



Since 1937, Ducks Unlimited has worked across North America to ensure a strong future for ducks and for waterfowl hunters. Your contribution to DU's Boreal Forest Initiative will support important waterfowl habitat conservation on both sides of the border in the Western Boreal Forest of Canada and Alaska, a region utilized by up to 40 percent of North America's breeding waterfowl.

**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.

## THE WORLD'S MOST AMBITIOUS CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN

Achieving comprehensive ecosystem protection of the North American Boreal Forest will require additional conservation commitments to fill in critical gaps across the landscape, where relatively less conservation progress has been made to date. Regions with increased focus in the Western Boreal Forest include::

- Northern Manitoba
- Northern Saskatchewan
- Northern Alberta
- Northern British Columbia
- Northwest Territories
- Yukon Territory
- Alaskan Interior

Significant progress has been made protecting Canada's Boreal Forest, but there is still much to be accomplished—and the Alaskan Boreal Forest is equally deserving of similar conservation. Long-term oversight and management and strong partnerships are critical to ensure the best possible results for what is, so far, the most ambitious conservation campaign on the planet.