



Today, the prairies face greater challenges than ever, threatening the continent's outdoor heritage. Ducks Unlimited must safeguard these critical breeding grounds for the future of waterfowl, our hunting heritage, and generations of people.



OUR PEAKS AND PRAIRIES NEED YOU NOW

Your gift to Ducks Unlimited is invaluable, and it is truly the greatest contribution you can make to secure the future of wetlands and waterfowl. Every dollar you give to Ducks Unlimited is leveraged multiple times to create a conservation impact far beyond your initial gift. In addition, we invest at least 80 cents of every dollar received in our conservation mission. Start making a difference right now for waterfowl, outdoorsmen, and future generations of wildlife and people by making your gift to DU's Peaks to Prairies Initiative. Join us in *Banding Together for Waterfowl*.

Help us *Rescue Our Wetlands* today.

Don't wait.
Call DU at **(701) 355-3500** today to speak with fundraising staff in your area.



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PEAKS TO PRAIRIES INITIATIVE



RESTORING WETLANDS IN THE SHADOW OF AMERICA'S ICONIC ROCKY MOUNTAINS AND CONSERVING THE DUCK FACTORY FOR OUTDOORSMEN AND WOMEN TO ENJOY

The Rocky Mountains make up a majestic landscape that has inspired Americans for centuries. The rugged peaks and valley wetlands offer a unique sense of place and open spaces for outdoor adventure.

Ducks Unlimited's Peaks to Prairies Initiative provides an opportunity for Rocky Mountain outdoor enthusiasts to help decide the future of the waterfowl and other wildlife that enrich their lives. The initiative supports the continental life cycle of waterfowl, from the beautiful wetlands and grasslands of the Rockies to the nesting grounds where healthy migrations begin.

As part of the Peaks to Prairies Initiative, Ducks Unlimited is

looking to restore exceptional places in the Rockies to their original state, as well as to protect the wetlands and grasslands of the Prairie Pothole Region, the primary source of nearly 70 percent of the continent's waterfowl.

The prairies are the world's best waterfowl nesting grounds. The Rocky Mountain waterfowling experience would not be the same without a healthy prairie system to provide the unmatched spectacle each fall. In turn, the Rockies provide important migration habitat for thousands of ducks, geese, and swans, while also providing outdoorsmen and women a variety of special places for recreation.



PEAKS TO PRAIRIES INITIATIVE IMPACT

Peaks to Prairies is a 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.

A primary focus of the Peaks to Prairies Initiative is protecting and restoring wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region that feed the migration path through the Rocky Mountains.

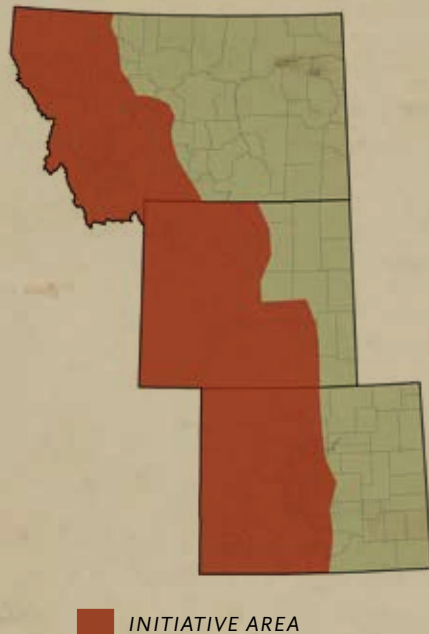
INITIATIVE STATES

Colorado, Wyoming and Montana

INITIATIVE GOALS:

Your contribution toward the Peaks to Prairies Initiative is part of the *Rescue Our Wetland's* Breeding Landscapes goal of \$300 million, as well as the Wintering and Migration Landscapes goal of \$484 million.

Supporting the Peaks to Prairies 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.



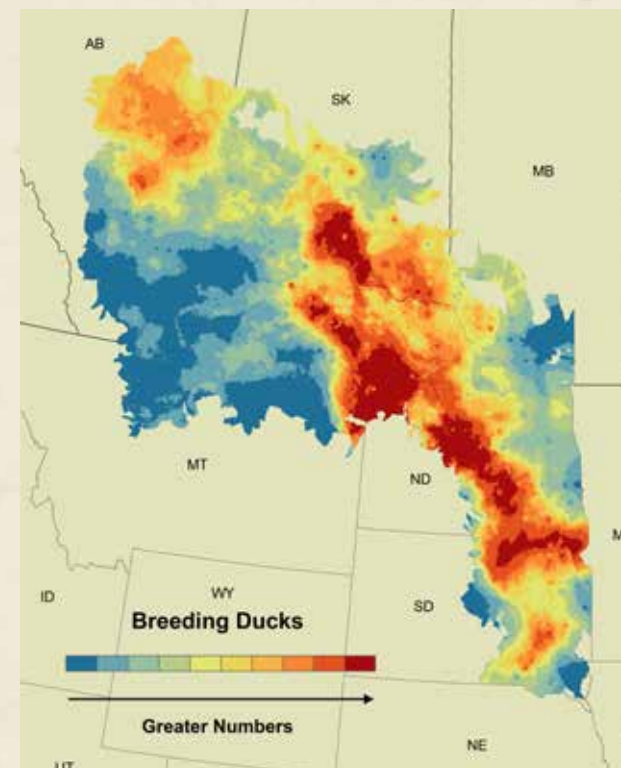
DU'S PLAN FOR PEAKS AND PRAIRIES

Today, the prairies face greater challenges than ever, threatening the continent's outdoor heritage. Wetlands critical to nesting waterfowl are being drained at an accelerated pace and the last remaining prairie grasslands are being converted to cropland. Ducks Unlimited must safeguard the prairies for the future of waterfowl, our hunting heritage and generations of people.

With your support of our Peaks to Prairies Initiative, DU will collaborate with partners and landowners to:

- Protect and restore critical waterfowl habitat on the prairies.
- Protect exceptional wetlands in the Rockies.
- Use world-class science to guide our conservation efforts.
- Employ strategic public policy solutions to safeguard the future of wetlands and waterfowl.
- Funding derived from the Peaks to Prairies Initiative enables 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



Prairie-nesting ducks are extraordinarily adaptable. Individual birds often return to a location where they bred successfully the year before, but if that area is dry, they may travel hundreds of miles in search of favorable wetland conditions. This strategy serves ducks well, because there are almost always areas of the Prairie Pothole Region that receive ample moisture. Even though these hotspots change from year to year, ducks still find them. Hedging

our bets against localized drought to provide ducks with options is why DU must conserve breeding habitat in both the United States and Canada through the Peaks to Prairies Initiative. The map above shows the areas in the Prairie Pothole Region where the greatest number of ducks settled during 1973 – 2012 and makes clear that we must work across the region to be successful.



DUCK, DUCK, MOOSE – ALL ARE WELCOME IN MOUNTAIN WETLANDS

What do moose and ducks have in common? Wetlands.

Wetlands are sometimes referred to as “biological supermarkets.” Wetlands found in the valleys and parks of the Intermountain West provide enriched foods to many animal species, from small aquatic insects to ducks to large mammals like moose, which live close to lakes and marshes to feed on aquatic plants.

Although not as numerous as other mountain habitats, like sage and woodlands, wetlands are richer with ecological diversity. Especially in the Rocky Mountains, wetlands provide one of the highest biological returns on investment when it comes to protection and restoration efforts. But due to unprecedented development in the Rockies and soaring crop prices on the prairies, wetlands are more threatened today than at any other time in history.

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.