



GREAT BIRDING PROJECTS



An approach to bird-related editing, education, tourism, and marketing 30 August 2011

Public Lands, Public Resource



National Public Lands Day

Earlier this year, in May, a coalition of groups coordinated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released its "2011 State of the Birds Report," which concludes that public lands and waters provide essential habitat for the survival of hundreds of bird species in the United States. To review this downloadable report, check [here](#). One other way to acknowledge the importance of public lands as a public resource is on National Public Lands Day (NPLD) to be held on Saturday, 24 September.

The idea behind this year's NPLD is to promote volunteerism as a healthy activity, but also to encourage individual localities to host and promote recreational activities such as nature and bird hikes, active clean-ups, outdoor runs, bike rides, and other physical activities.

Thousands of parks, refuges, and forests will be hosting clean-up, maintenance, visitor access, educational, invasive-plant, or restoration projects on public lands across the country on 24 September. There are bird connections to a number of these efforts. You can find out more [here](#), including the location of individual projects.

A Stamp Reminder:

And while we are on the subject of a grand public resource, you can still get your \$15 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation [Duck] Stamp at most large U.S. Post Offices, staffed National Wildlife Refuges, better sporting goods stores, or even online [by clicking here](#). The proceeds for the \$15-Stamp go to acquire wetland and grassland habitat in the National Wildlife Refuge System. (If you're having a hard time finding a Stamp, send me \$15.50, and I'll mail you one. If you also want a clear plastic display holder on which to hang your stamp, include another \$1.00. Just make your check payable to "Paul Baicich," and mail it - with a copy of your own address - to the P.O. Box located at the very bottom of this page.)

Words to Consider:

"I never heard a Wood Thrush until I was a grown man, though I must have been surrounded by them every spring. Each year I discover new sights and sounds to teach me how blind and deaf I must still be."

- Louis J. Halle, (1910-1998), diplomat, professor, and author
from *Spring in Washington* (1963)

