

A Field Guide to **AUDUBON**



**A Guide to
Hemispheric
Conservation
Where Birds
Thrive, People
Prosper**



ONE AUDUBON

The brilliant red patch worn by generations of Audubon wardens signals our commitment to birds, habitat, and the power of people to protect a way of life that is deeply connected to the environment. This common bond underlies our unshakable belief in the power of the unparalleled Audubon network.

For more than a century, Audubon has championed the protection of birds and their habitat. We have helped species like the Bald Eagle and Brown Pelican soar off the endangered species list, and been instrumental in keeping others like the California Condor and Whooping Crane from the brink of extinction. We have marshaled an army of Chapters, members, crowd-scientists, and volunteers to fight for the preservation of the places birds depend on for habitat and the ecosystems that support human health and quality of life—places like the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the Everglades, the high plains of the West, the Mississippi Delta, and the Gulf Coast. Each year, Audubon Centers and education programs inspire more than a million people to appreciate and safeguard the natural world. Together, we are honoring our natural heritage—and ensuring a healthy, vibrant world for generations to come.

About the cover: Audubon is grateful to David Allen Sibley, creator of the California Condor cover illustration, published here for the first time, and the other bird drawings used throughout this report.

“When I was in second grade and first took a real interest in birding, my father had a job studying California Condors, so it was a species that I ‘added to my list’ very early. I knew it was rare and special—at that time there were only about 60 birds living—but of course I couldn’t really comprehend the full meaning of that. I am deeply grateful to all of the people who worked so hard to save the species from total extinction, and for the opportunity to watch them now. In a painting like this I’m simply trying to convey a little of the grace and power of the bird itself. I find beauty in the flexing of the wingtips, the subtle gradations of color and shadow, all the little details of patterns and contours.”

—David Allen Sibley



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Production Manager: James Logan

Contributing Writers: David Ringer, Brenda Timm

Bird illustrations: David Allen Sibley

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