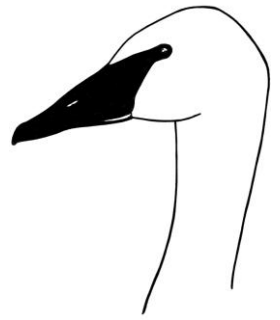




# TRUMPETINGS

*Voice of The Trumpeter Swan Society*

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*Since 1968: Assuring the Vitality and Welfare of Wild Trumpeter Swans*

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## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



### TTSS JOINS IN SUING EPA FOR REFUSING TO ADDRESS TOXIC LEAD IN AMMUNITION

On 7 June, TTSS along with six other conservation groups filed suit against the Environmental Protection Agency for refusing to address toxic lead in hunting ammunition, which frequently poisons and kills eagles, swans, loons, endangered California Condors, and other wildlife, as well as affecting human health. Ignoring well-established science on the dangers of lead poisoning from spent ammunition, the EPA refuses to acknowledge or evaluate risks to wildlife and humans. The EPA in April denied a petition requesting a public process to consider regulations for nontoxic hunting ammunition. TTSS was one of 100 groups that signed that petition. The lawsuit challenges that decision.

"The EPA has the ability to immediately end the unintended killing of eagles, swans, loons, condors, and other wildlife," said Jeff Miller with the Center for Biological Diversity. "Unfortunately, the agency refuses to address this needless poisoning. We've removed

toxic lead from gasoline, paint, and most products exposing humans to lead poisoning; now it's time to do the same for hunting ammunition to protect America's wildlife."

For years, the Directors of TTSS have urged decision makers to "get the lead out." In Washington State and adjacent British Columbia, since 1999, over 3,000 swans have been confirmed to have died from ingesting lead shot. Expended lead shot persists in the environment for a long time. These swans died from ingesting lead shot deposited by hunters years ago.

The National Shooting Sports Foundation has branded this a frivolous law suit and an attack on hunting. **As a hunter, I take very strong exception to that.** TTSS was founded by waterfowl biologists and hunters and has avid hunters and anglers on its board, staff, and as members today. Hunters and anglers started the conservation movement in the United States prior to the Civil War. Their successors can provide leadership to prevent killing of nontarget wildlife today. Getting the lead out is in line with traditional conservation and hunting values.

Millions of nontarget birds and other wildlife are poisoned each year from scavenging carcasses containing lead-bullet fragments or from ingesting spent lead-shot pellets. Spent ammunition causes lead poisoning in 130 species of birds and other animals, and frequently kills Bald Eagles, Trumpeter Swans, and endangered California Condors, especially the latter in Arizona, where lead is the leading cause of these birds' deaths. Nearly 500 scientific papers document the dangers to wildlife from this kind of lead exposure. Lead hunting ammunition and fishing tackle should have been retired long ago.

There are alternatives to lead rifle bullets and shotgun pellets. More than a dozen manufacturers market varieties and calibers of nonlead bullets and shot made of steel, copper, and alloys of other metals, with satisfactory to superior ballistics. Hunters in areas with restrictions on lead ammunition have very successfully transitioned to hunting with nontoxic bullets. As the next generation of cygnets fledge, let's make the environment safer for them and all of us.

*- John Cornely*

## TTSS ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR BECKY ABEL AWARDED 2012 *TOGETHERGREEN* FELLOWSHIP

TTSS Board and staff are pleased to report that Associate Director Becky Abel was recently awarded a prestigious *TogetherGreen* fellowship.



*TogetherGreen*, a conservation initiative of the National Audubon Society and Toyota, selects 40 high-potential leaders annually to receive a \$10,000 Fellows Grant. With the funds, Fellows conduct projects to engage diverse audiences in habitat, water, or energy conservation. In addition to receiving support launching their conservation initiatives, the Fellows also benefit from specialized training and the opportunity to become part of an exciting alumni network of conservation professionals.

"These are heroes. They help people engage with nature. They look like America: diverse, passionate, and patriotic," said Audubon President David Yarnold. "Becky is a leader, and we're pleased to give her a chance to invent the future." Abel's *TogetherGreen* project aims to develop guidance documents that outline steps for partnering with electric energy companies across the US to reduce Trumpeter Swan mortality associated with power lines. The *TogetherGreen Fellowship Program* provides the selected leaders with resources, visibility, and a growing peer network to help them lead communities nationwide to a healthier environmental future.

"Trumpeter Swans offer potential to serve as ambassadors for broad conservation messages related to wetland loss, for responsible stewardship of the earth's biodiversity, and to highlight threats to migratory birds," Abel explained. "Unfortunately, human-caused hazards and habitat alteration continue to threaten the species' long-term security."

"We want to build partnerships between unlikely allies—conservation groups and electric energy companies," she added. "In addition to Trumpeter Swans, our work will benefit



Tundra Swans, Whooping and Sandhill Cranes, pelicans, and other large, low-flying birds."

Learn more about Becky's project on the web:  
<http://togethergreen.org/fellows/fellow/becky-abel>.

## HELP US INCREASE THE FLOCK! A Note from Becky Abel

Throughout this year, TTSS is working to increase our capacity for Trumpeter Swan conservation. We want to position ourselves to be an even stronger voice for Trumpeter Swans and the habitats upon which they depend. To do this, we need more members, more funds, and more people who understand and support the issues that we tackle. You can help us increase the flock and double the value of your contribution at the same time! One of our generous board members has offered a membership challenge and will match **dollar for dollar** all new and increasing donations to TTSS. Do you know of a classroom that is reading E.B. White's *The Trumpet of the Swan*? Why not give the teacher a membership? Are you looking for a meaningful gift idea for a conservationist on your list? Your donations will be matched. Nonprofit organizations experience a fairly high rate of membership turnover and need new members each year just to stay the course. With a small part-time staff, you are our most effective recruiters!

[www.facebook.com/TheTrumpeterSwanSociety](http://www.facebook.com/TheTrumpeterSwanSociety)

Another way that you, our members, can help us broaden our reach is by "liking" The Trumpeter Swan Society on Facebook and asking their friends to do the same. The Trumpeter Swan Society's Facebook page is an active forum for discussion of Trumpeter Swan issues, stunning photography, and breaking news. You can stay better informed about continentwide

Trumpeter Swan issues by frequenting our Facebook page and can easily introduce your friends to this magnificent species by encouraging them to "like" us as well.

## CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES AWARDED A “CONNIE”



The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) presented the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) with its 2012 Conservation Achievement Award in Government at an awards banquet in May. The tribes are being honored for their “commitment to protecting, enhancing and conserving their homeland for future generations,” according to National Wildlife Federation president and CEO Larry Schweiger. The tribe’s work, Schweiger added, “Benefits wildlife and all Americans in one of North America’s most spectacular and important ecosystems.”

“As a tribal government, this has always been our mission, to protect all the resources,” CSKT Chairman Joe Durglo said. “We feel privileged to be recognized and honored this way for what we’ve always done in the history of our people.” Tribal council member Reuben Mathias and CSKT wildlife manager Dale Becker were in Washington to accept the award. Becker is the immediate past president of The Trumpeter Swan Society and current member of its Board.

The NWF singled the tribes out for establishing the Mission Mountains Wilderness Area on the Flathead Indian Reservation, the nation’s first tribally designated wilderness area. It also noted the tribes have restored Trumpeter Swans to the reservation, established a grizzly bear conservation area, helped stop a proposed dam on the Kootenai River, and established minimum instream flows for the Jocko River Basin, which the federation said was Montana’s first quantification of instream flows to support fish and wildlife. The Trumpeter Swan restoration effort was led by TTSS Director Dale Becker.

“The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes are respected among tribes in Montana and across the nation as conservation and wildlife management

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leaders,” Alexis Bonogofsky, tribal lands manager for the National Wildlife Federation, said. “In giving this governmental award to the CSKT, NWF is expressing its respect for them and other tribes, and the profound role they have played as sovereign nations in protecting wildlife for generations.”

## TTSS MEMBER DAVE SHARP RECEIVES THE INTERNATIONAL CANVASBACK AWARD



Each year the Plan Committee of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) presents the International Canvasback Award to an exceptional individual, corporation, or organization that has made substantial contributions over a long period of time to the implementation of the plan throughout North America. Dave Sharp was presented the award recently in Lakewood, Colorado. Dave was the first NAWMP staff waterfowl population specialist and played a critical role in garnering support for the plan throughout North America and helping launch the initial joint ventures. He was a charter member of the NAWMP Continental Assessment team. After 3 years on the NAWMP staff, Dave was named the Central Flyway Representative for the US Fish and Wildlife Service and continued his strong support of NAWMP and the joint ventures that implement the plan. In addition to his many years of service in support of NAWMP, he continues to assist in the documentation of the plan’s history. NAWMP is considered by many as the most successful conservation effort in North America.

Photo: *Dave Sharp (right) receives award from Steve Guertin.*





## SWAN SONG TO TWO GREAT FRIENDS OF TRUMPETER SWANS AND TTSS



### Harold Burgess

Our dear friend and colleague, Harold Burgess, traveled to the great marsh beyond the horizon on 13 March 2012. Harold began working with Trumpeter Swans when he became Refuge Manager of Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge in 1972. Shortly thereafter he and his wife Ruth attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> TTSS Conference at Grande

Prairie, Alberta. This inspired Harold to host the next conference at Martin, South Dakota, in 1973. Harold and Ruth began spending much off-duty time surveying off-refuge Trumpeters. In the late 1970s, Harold served on the Central Flyway Swan Committee. He chaired the writing of the Lacreek Trumpeter Swan Plan during that time. After retirement in 1980, he served on the Society's Board of Directors and as the US representative on the Trumpeter Swan Restoration Committee. As President of TTSS for two terms, he encouraged restoration of Trumpeter Swans in Wisconsin, Ontario, and Michigan. He was a strong advocate of designing experiments to develop methods to return Trumpeters to their historic wintering areas, particularly the Gulf Coast of Texas and Tamaulipas, Mexico. Ruth was his constant partner in swan conservation until her passing in 1988. Harold's life was dedicated to wildlife conservation with special emphasis on National Wildlife Refuges and Trumpeter Swans. For a lifetime of conservation work, Harold was one of the first recipients of the Society's George Melendez Wright Trumpeter Swan Conservation Award. Trumpeters throughout North America have benefited from his caring and efforts. The swans and the rest of us will miss him dearly.



### Peter Ward

Peter Ward was one of the founding fathers of The Trumpeter Swan Society in 1968. He died suddenly on 24 March at the age of 92 in his home in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. Up until last May, Peter had been an integral part of the Delta Marsh for decades – "Delta Waterfowl's 'legend-in-residence.'"

The following is from Delta Waterfowl's website: "*Peter first went to Delta Marsh in 1926 as son of gamekeeper Edward Ward. Despite having no formal training, he worked side-by-side with Albert Hochbaum, Lyle Sowls, Art Hawkins and other notable researchers on numerous ground-breaking advances in waterfowl science.*"

Peter Ward was always very generous with his knowledge about Trumpeters and was important in the initial efforts of Trumpeter restoration in Hennepin Parks. With Peter hosting, the 4<sup>th</sup> Trumpeter Swan Society Conference was held in 1974 at the Delta Waterfowl Research Station, now known as Delta Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Station.

Peter's obituary, written by one of his children, speaks of his love of the natural world around him, especially the marsh: "He lived the rest of his life surrounded by the marsh, and his life's work of paintings attest to how much he loved, understood and appreciated this life. His contributions to the world of wildlife, waterfowl, and art will not be forgotten."



## Pennsylvania Volunteers Save Rare Trumpeter Swan

*By Ruth Shea*

Trumpeter Swans were eliminated from the eastern states during the 1700s and 1800s, but in recent years, increasing observations have revealed that the swans are slowly returning to their historic eastern range. One of these rare pioneering Trumpeter Swans was recently rescued from certain death by the amazing efforts of local citizens in Pennsylvania.

On 24 May, birder and photographer George Christopher photographed the yearling swan on Chambers Lake in Hibernia Park, Chester County, Pennsylvania. His pictures showed that the bird was badly entangled in discarded fishing line. Christopher posted photos to the Pennsylvania Birders Facebook page seeking aid for the swan. Marian Quinn, a Chester County resident and longtime volunteer for Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research,

Inc. in Newark, Delaware, saw the photographs and sprang into action. Amid lingering questions, she contacted TTSS to verify that the bird was a rare Trumpeter Swan. Ruth Shea, TTSS Board Member, confirmed its identity and provided advice throughout the rescue effort. Quinn also contacted park staff, a local rehabber, two more Tri-State volunteers, and a birder friend, who knew many of the lake's neighbors.

They all came out to help. The volunteers mobilized on Memorial Day morning with support from Hibernia Park staff and Tri-State's veterinarians. Amazingly, the entangled swan was able to fly short distances and tried hard to evade capture. Over several days, each failed capture attempt brought new learning about swan behavior, and the team finally caught the bird on 30 May. The monofilament had the swan's head, neck, bill, and tongue tightly wrapped in five different ways. With many fine snips, rehabilitator Susan Birch freed the swan of the line, and then administered an antibiotic and a mild pain killer. Together the team set the swan free.

The determination, organization, and skill of this impromptu team are inspiring. On behalf of TTSS, we extend our admiration and sincere thanks to all of the folks who worked together so successfully to give this pioneering swan a second chance. Because of your efforts, this young swan has the chance to be one of the Trumpeters that will help reestablish this species in the eastern US.

*Update – As of 20 June, the Hibernia Park Trumpeter is doing well. Its near-death experience has raised volunteers' awareness of the dire need for community help to remove hazardous discarded fishing gear from the environment. Inspired to further action, on Friday, 15 June, team members traded nets for trash bags and began a multi-phase lake cleanup. They removed fishing line, hooks, sinkers, bobbers, and net fragments. They also picked up trash and sorted out recyclables. A proposal for ongoing cleanup, educational signage, and new fishing line receptacles is in the works. Well done!*

# RESTORING GRAYLING AND TRUMPETER SWANS A Growing Management Challenge

*By Ruth Shea*



Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (RRL) in Montana's Centennial Valley is the most important nesting area for Trumpeter Swans in the western United States. In addition to the vast refuge marshes, there are also 30+ historic nesting territories on nearby federal and private lands. Greater Yellowstone's nesting swans are the most vulnerable breeding Trumpeters in North America and the only nesting group that escaped extinction in the lower 48 states. Swan habitat management decisions in the Centennial Valley will have a substantial impact on the viability of these nesting swans.

Last year, through our Centennial Valley Project, we produced a detailed report summarizing the off-refuge territories and providing recommendations to correct problems and increase nest success. This year, we are working with landowners to improve conditions at priority territories. Thanks to grants received from the **Cinnabar Foundation** and the **Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative**, we are also expanding our efforts to focus on a very important issue – ensuring that efforts to restore lake-dwelling grayling are planned with the utmost care to avoid significant damage to important Trumpeter Swan habitat.

Although this beautiful fish is widespread in Alaska and Canada, grayling in Montana are a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. The Centennial Valley is home to one of the last lake-dwelling populations in the lower 48 states. Recently, fish managers have proposed restoration actions that would drain both Culver and MacDonald Ponds on RRL. These spring-fed man-made ponds have provided much of the late winter/early spring foraging habitat for the valley's nesting swans for over 100 years and TTSS is asking the US Fish and Wildlife Service to carefully reconsider this action.

Careful integration of grayling and Trumpeter Swan restoration needs will be a challenge for the foreseeable future. Our goal is to build a vital partnership with fish managers and conservationists to explore all possible management options and find ways to minimize and mitigate swan habitat damage if at times it is unavoidable. We are hopeful that this situation, involving the restoration of two iconic, vulnerable populations, will become a showcase effort of integrated management for vulnerable species with overlapping ranges that have differing habitat needs.

## IN-DEPTH INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE

Find the detailed report summarizing TTSS' recommendations for the Centennial Valley and more on the Greater Yellowstone Initiative (GYTSI):  
[www.trumpeterswansociety.org/GYTSI](http://www.trumpeterswansociety.org/GYTSI)



## THE TRUMPETERS

*By Peter Meiring, TTSS member*

Look towards the north to Cepheus;  
Seen next to Polaris in the early Spring,  
Pointing there towards the east is Cygnus,  
With long neck and graceful curve of wing.

Deneb lights its tail, it can only be a swan.  
The ancients surely knew their natural world,  
When their gaze upon this constellation shone  
And Cygnus the Swan it was thenceforth called.

In April, going north to breeding grounds,  
Many swans are resting on the lake;  
Their honks on taking off are thrilling sounds.  
Flying in skeins and lines, their way they make.

A huge and lovely bird, all gleaming white,  
With long and graceful neck and jet black bill  
The Trumpeter Swan an unforgettable sight  
And sound, the memory to thrill.



## TTSS BOARD MEMBER BOB BLOHM RECEIVES THE GRINNELL AWARD

Robert "Bob" Blohm was honored with the Wildlife Management Institute's (WMI) 2012 George Bird Grinnell Memorial Award for Distinguished Service to Natural Resource Conservation. The award was conferred in March during the annual Conservation Administrators Luncheon at the 77<sup>th</sup> North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

The award, established in honor of the acknowledged "Father of American Conservation" - George Bird Grinnell - is WMI's highest honor for individual contribution to conservation in North America. Presenting the award was WMI President, Steve Williams, who noted that Blohm's thirty-two year tenure with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was characterized by "unassuming and selfless qualities of character and a dedication to the science and principles of wildlife management."

"Those who have known and worked with Bob note that his leadership style, though quiet and understated, is founded upon a deep understanding of wildlife and an overriding confidence in the ability of well-informed people to manage their future," said Williams. "Bob's integrity, affability and calm demeanor have earned him a vast legion of friends within and outside the wildlife profession." *Photo: Steve Williams with Bob Blohm.*

*Quoted in part from Wildlife Management Institute's Outdoor News Bulletin, April 16, 2012.*



## TTSS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

**CANADA:** **Alberta:** Lori Nelson – Halkirk; **Ontario:** David and Sandra Mitchell – Stevensville. **USA:** **California:** Mrs. Condon & Sebens 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class - Santa Ana, Theresa Bielawski – Fair Oaks; **Colorado:** Pascha Enzi – Lakewood, Evelyn Horn – Eckert; **Iowa:** Anita Brosnahan-Johnson – Ames, Iowa State University Swan Restoration Committee; **Idaho:** Randall Fowler – Swan Valley; **Minnesota:** Rebecca Seibel-Hunt – Minneapolis; **New Mexico:** Nancy Gloman – Rio Rancho; **Oregon:** Cameron LaFollette – Salem; **Washington:** Catherine Hope-Gill – Stanwood, Eric Morrison – Seattle.

## AN UPDATE FROM ONTARIO

*By Bev Kingdon & Kyna Intini*



Ontario had a successful winter season, with a total of 87 Trumpeter Swans (38 adults and 49 cygnets) and 76 Mute Swans banded and marked. The majority of these birds was caught at LaSalle Park in Burlington, with several

caught at Wye Marsh by Sara Street and in the greater Toronto area by Harry Lumsden. At LaSalle, there were 17 Ontario families that brought 52 cygnets to winter and this included a record family of 10 cygnets from a single pair. Overall, fewer swans than normal came to LaSalle Park during this past winter, mostly due to very mild weather conditions. There were birds reported staying further north on open water throughout the winter, including a number of families.

Since Ray and Beverly Kingdon were unable to help for most of the winter, Kyna Intini and Julie Kee did the catching, banding, and Avian-Borna-virus sampling at LaSalle. Julie and Kyna both started their daily volunteer banding after putting in a full day at work. Ray was able to help at the tail end of the winter when his knee allowed him to get back to limited banding. He is moving carefully at the moment, but should be right in the thick of banding again for next winter.

At LaSalle Park, Kyna and Julie were constantly interacting with the public as they worked. One day, though, they had a rare challenge when a busload of invited visitors came to observe the banding and marking on what turned out to be the coldest day of the winter -- so cold that the ink on the tags would not dry. However, they were successful in banding several birds during the afternoon and the visitors went away pleased with what they had seen.

Two swans were lost to lead poisoning during the winter -- one at LaSalle and one at Wye Marsh. Both were sent to the University of Guelph for necropsy. With the early spring this year, the swans got a jump on nesting, the earliest hatch being on 23 May.

## PHOTO CREDITS:

Pg. 2: photos Dan deRegnier. Pg. 3: A. Frederickson (right). Pg. 4: George E. Christopher (lower). Pg. 5: Jess Lee (right) [www.jessleephotos.com](http://www.jessleephotos.com). Pg. 1 photos, Pg. 3 (right), Pg. 5 (right), Pg. 7 photos, and photos of Cover and Backcover: Tammy Wolfe. *Twice selected as TTSS Photographer of the Month, Tammy Wolfe is devoted to Trumpeter Swans. You can see more of her swan images in Spirit of the Swan, a children's book that is available now on Kindle as an ebook. Author Mary Lundeberg was inspired to write the book by news accounts of a Trumpeter Swan that was illegally shot, restored to health, and released in the wild. The print version will be available later this year. [www.twolfephotos.smugmug.com](http://www.twolfephotos.smugmug.com)*



# TRUMPETER SWANS: A DREAM COME TRUE

By Carrol Henderson



I was hired by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in 1974 as Assistant Manager of the Lac qui Parle Wildlife Management Area. Then, in 1977, I was hired to be the head of a new DNR unit—the Nongame Wildlife Program. Nongame wildlife broadly defined is all the wildlife you are not supposed to shoot ranging from frogs and toads to butterflies, bats, eagles, and Peregrine Falcons. I still recall asking at the close of my job interview about the prospects for reintroducing Trumpeter Swans. The response was not very encouraging, because they had been extirpated from the state in the 1880s and efforts to reintroduce them in the 1960s had limited success. However, this was a new program with new opportunities and I was not to be dissuaded by pessimism even though funds were very limited.

When the Minnesota Nongame Wildlife Checkoff law was passed in 1980, new opportunities opened up for restoration of long-neglected nongame species, including Trumpeter Swans. I began collaborating with others interested in Trumpeters like members of The Trumpeter Swan Society, Hennepin Parks (now Three Rivers Park District), faculty from the University of Minnesota, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. By 1982, Dr. Jim Cooper of the University of Minnesota and I had drafted a restoration plan with the modest goal of establishing 30 breeding pairs in the state. Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and the nearby White Earth Indian Reservation were selected as the core area for swan releases. Eggs in mid to late stages of incubation were collected from the Minto Flats west of Fairbanks, Alaska, flown to Minnesota for hatching and rearing for 2 years, and then released in the Tamarac

NWR area. I collected 50 eggs per year in 1986, 1987, and 1988.

Steve Kittelson hatched and reared cygnets at the Carlos Avery Wildlife Refuge. At the same time, we received cygnets from several zoos in the Midwest and Great Plains, including the Minnesota Zoo in Apple Valley. The cygnets were held in rearing ponds at Carlos Avery for 23 months while DNR swan technician Peggy Hines identified wetlands where the swans could be released. The first group of 23-month-old swans was released at Tamarac 25 years ago in April 1987. A total of 358 Trumpeters has been released to restore this species to Minnesota at a cost of about \$514,000, all funds coming from voluntary donations to the Nongame Wildlife Checkoff on Minnesota tax forms.

In 1988, a nesting pair of Trumpeters succeeded in hatching one cygnet. Now, about 1500 cygnets are hatched annually in the wild in Minnesota. In 2011, a winter swan count in the state resulted in an estimate of 5,500 Trumpeters, including 500 breeding pairs. They have spread throughout much of the state and expanded to adjacent provinces and states. The Trumpeters in Minnesota are still increasing at a rate of 16 to 18 percent per year. I expected the swans to spread into the Prairie Pothole country, but most of them dispersed into the northern boreal lakes country characterized by spruce and tamarack forests and remote lakes surrounded by bog mats. That is exactly the kind of habitat where I collected the first eggs in Alaska in the 1980s.



Now we are dealing with how to switch from restoration mode for this spectacular waterfowl species to a long-term-management strategy. This is a wildlife success story we can all take pride in as we enjoy the fulfillment of a dream!

Editors' note — Carrol Henderson was honored by receiving the North American Bird Conservation Initiative's Gary T. Myers Bird Conservation Award during the annual North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, on 15 March, 2012. The above article was adapted from *Tamarac Tracks*, the newsletter of Friends of Tamarac NWR, with Mr. Henderson's permission.



Cover Photos by Tammy Wolfe, [www.twolfephotographs.smugmug.com](http://www.twolfephotographs.smugmug.com)

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*Assuring the Vitality and Welfare of  
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