



# AMERICAN BIRD CONSERVANCY

CONSERVING WILD BIRDS AND THEIR HABITATS THROUGHOUT THE AMERICAS

Chesapeake Watershed  
Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit  
Appalachian Laboratory, UMCES  
301 Braddock Road  
Frostburg, MD 21532

Dear CW CESU

American Bird Conservancy respectfully requests to be admitted to membership in the Chesapeake Watershed Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit. We see this as an exciting way to interact more closely with other member institutions, agencies, and organizations. ABC's mission is the conservation of the birds of the Western Hemisphere, and in order to achieve that mission we facilitate or undertake research to build a biological foundation for conservation, partnership building at multiple scales throughout the Hemisphere, landscape level conservation design, and on-the-ground projects designed to improve conditions for high priority birds. Please read more about ABC at our web site ([www.abcbirds.org](http://www.abcbirds.org)). We recommend checking the About ABC, Staff Biographies, and ABC Programs pages.

I am available to answer any questions about ABC or our upcoming plans by phone or email. All of us here at ABC are hopeful that we will be accepted into the Studies Unit and look forward to strengthening relationships within it during the years to come.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

David N. Pashley  
Vice-President for Conservation Programs  
American Bird Conservancy  
P.O. Box 249  
The Plains, VA 20198  
540-253-5780  
[dpashley@abcbirds.org](mailto:dpashley@abcbirds.org)



P.O. Box 249 • THE PLAINS, VA • 20198  
PHONE: 540-253-5780 • FAX: 540-253-5782 • E-MAIL: [ABC@ABCIBIRDS.ORG](mailto:ABC@ABCIBIRDS.ORG)

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



## CHESAPEAKE WATERSHED COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEM STUDIES UNIT

### APPLICATION FROM AMERICAN BIRD CONSERVANCY

#### APPLICATION MATERIALS

1. CONTACT PERSON

David Pashley  
Vice-President for Conservation Programs  
American Bird Conservancy  
P.O. Box 249  
The Plains, VA 20198  
Phone – 540-253-5780  
Fax – 540-253-5782  
[dpashley@abcbirds.org](mailto:dpashley@abcbirds.org)

2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES TO BE OFFERED

American Bird Conservancy (ABC) has a long history of working with various Federal land management, environmental, and research agencies, and is eager to continue these relationships under the auspices of the CESU. At this point in time, we are in communication with the Natural Resources Conservation Service regarding a project under the lead of NRCS and the Farm Services Administration. The nature of the project is to pull user-friendly bird conservation information into a format that NRCS and FSA staff can use in implementation of various Farm Bill programs. The various bird initiatives (North American Waterfowl Management Plan, Partners in Flight, U.S. Shorebird Plan, Waterbirds for the Americas, and various upland game bird efforts) have developed detailed bird conservation plans for most of the country, but the recommendations in those plans have not been consolidated in single treatments for any habitat type within any Bird Conservation Region. Therefore, even though the plans exist, the information in them is essentially inaccessible to those implementing the Farm Bill. We hope to create tools for use in every habitat type in the country in which Farm Bill programs are active.

ABC also has a long history of working with the Environmental Protection Agency. Much of this work regards pesticides and birds, including a program documenting the effects of pesticides on birds through coordination of scattered mortality data. We are also exploring working with EPA on a Crops and Birds project in which we are documenting the use by high conservation priority birds of all of the major crops grown in the United States. This will ultimately allow EPA and other partners to better predict the potential impact of various pesticides on birds. In the past, we have had a long relationship with EPA regarding the observed and potential impacts of global warming on bird populations.

ABC has had many agreements and contracts with the USDA Forest Service. Most notable has been a series of three agreements in which we have solidified

the Joint Venture system in key parts of the country where the Forest Service has a major interest in bird conservation. Under these agreements, ABC has hired or contracted either Bird Conservation Region Coordinators or paid for key pieces of conservation planning. In all cases, these efforts have greatly improved the biological foundation for bird conservation and assisted a large number of National Forests in their efforts to contribute to regional bird conservation priorities. We recently entered into a fourth agreement with the FS covering key areas in the Southeast, and hope to continue this type of productive relationship in the future.

We also work closely with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, again often to strengthen the biological foundation and conservation design upon which Joint Ventures base their activities. We have co-supervisory relationships with staff in various parts of the country. We have had contracts with a variety of Joint Ventures to fund staff or to undertake research or geographic analysis projects central to JV functions.

ABC has a strong shared program with the US Army Corps of Engineers in which we are investigating the potential to manage a great number of Corps projects in manners that improve benefits to birds. The types of projects involved are in dredge management, beach nourishment, bird monitoring, and management of relevant information. We hope that this is a long-standing relationship. Through this same relationship, ABC helps support the Department of Defense Partners in Flight Coordinator.

ABC has working relationships with other federal agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management and National Park Service, although we have not in the past or present formalized those relationships with any types of contracts. This may change in the future.

In addition to Federal agencies, ABC has working relationships with many state wildlife agencies. This may not be immediately relevant to work within the CESU, but our work with states such as Tennessee, Missouri, Montana, Oregon, New Jersey, West Virginia, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and others is further evidence of our great interest in partnering with public agencies in the conservation of birds.

### 3. OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

American Bird Conservancy is dedicated to the conservation of the birds of the Western Hemisphere. We are a small organization that enjoys success through leveraged relationships with a great number of partners. These include federal and state agencies and an array of non-governmental organizations in the United States. We manage the Bird Conservation Alliance, which now consists of over 100 member NGOs dedicated to bird conservation. We also do a great deal of work internationally, and have a range of public and private partners in countries

such as Mexico, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Cuba, and St. Lucia.

Although our ultimate objective is to conserve bird populations in the wild, we often find that the highest immediate priorities are to learn more about the populations or habitats in question. When these situations become evident, we aggressively pursue the research, monitoring, spatial analysis, or conservation planning that appears to be necessary. Although we are not strictly speaking a research organization, we are heavily involved in research projects throughout the hemisphere. We award grants to partners in Latin America for a variety of projects, and have entered into contracts with numerous universities and research-based NGOs within the US.

4. LIST OF SCIENTISTS AND AREAS OF EXPERTISE

David Pashley – Avian conservation biology

George Fenwick – Conservation biology

George Wallace – Neotropical bird conservation

Jane Fitzgerald – Midwestern U.S. bird conservation

Robert Chipley – Conservation biology

Robert Ridgely – Neotropical ornithology

Casey Lott – Coastal bird conservation

Bob Altman – Pacific Northwest bird conservation

Dan Casey – Rocky Mountain bird conservation

Hugo Arnal – Andes bird conservation

Mike Parr – Conservation biology

David Fischer - Policy

5. RELEVANT FACILITIES

ABC's main office is in The Plains, Virginia. We have an office with several staff involved in policy issues in Washington, DC, as well as seven satellite offices across the country.

6. RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

7. CURRENT RELATIONSHIPS

These points were summarized above under item number 2.

**\*\*\* AMERICAN BIRD CONSERVANCY EMPLOYEE DIRECTORY \*\*\***

**THE PLAINS, VA OFFICE**

P.O. Box 249 ~ 4249 Loudoun Ave.  
The Plains, VA 20198-2237  
Tel. (540) 253-5780  
Fax (540) 253-5782

**WASHINGTON DC OFFICE**

1731 Connecticut Avenue NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20009  
Tel. (202) 234-7181  
Fax (202) 234-7182

**George Fenwick**  
President  
E-Mail: gfenwick@abcbirds.org

**Michael J. Parr**  
Vice President for Program Development  
E-Mail: mparr@abcbirds.org

**David N. Pashley**  
Vice President for Conservation  
E-Mail: dpashley@abcbirds.org

**David Fischer**  
Director, Government Relations  
dfischer@abcbirds.org

**George Wallace**  
Vice President of International Programs  
E-Mail: gwallace@abcbirds.org

**Robert M. Chipley**  
Director, U.S. IBA Program  
E-Mail: Rchipley@abcbirds.org

**Hugo Arnal**  
Tropical Andes Program Coord  
Email: harnal@abcbirds.org

**OTHER OFFICES**

**Bob Altman**  
Northern Pacific Rainforest  
BCR Coordinator  
Tel: (541) 745-5339 Fax: Same  
E-Mail: baltman@abcbirds.org  
311 NE Mistletoe Circle  
Corvallis, OR 97330

**Dan Casey**  
Northern Rockies BCR Coordinator  
Susannah Casey  
GIS Technician – Northern Rockies  
Tel (406) 756-2681 ~ Fax (406) 756-2682  
E-Mail: dcasey@abcbirds.org  
33 2nd St. E ~ Kalispell, MT 59901

**Jane A. Fitzgerald**  
Central Hardwoods BCR Coordinator  
Tel: (314) 918-8505 Fax: (314) 918-8505  
E-Mail: jfitzgerald@abcbirds.org  
Home: 625 Country Hills Drive  
Rock Hill, MO 63119-1327

**Casey Lott**  
Coastal and Waterways Program Coordinator  
Tel: (631) 470-5776  
Fax: (631) 470-5776 (call 1st)  
Email: clott@abcbirds.org  
111 Hillwood Drive  
Huntington Station, NY 11746

**Robert S. Ridgely**  
Vice President for Endangered Bird Conservation  
Tel: (603) 284-6200  
Fax: (603) 284-7134  
E-Mail: rridgely@abcbirds.org  
200 Beede Flats Road  
P.O. Box 58  
North Sandwich, NH 03259

To: cesuall-jan05

Subject: please respond - conference call needed!

Dear CW CESU Technical Representatives:

At the urging of our newest federal agency partner, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the American Bird Conservancy (ABC) has submitted their final application material for partnership in the CW CESU. We would like to expedite the addition of ABC, both because the NRCS is anxious to begin work with them but also to minimize the amount of paperwork we all have to deal with by adding JMU and ABC with one amendment to the cooperative agreement (getting signatures can take a lot of time - and can be a hassle).

We normally have pending partners give a presentation at our fall/winter meeting. But, we don't want to wait that long. We'd like to hear a brief statement from ABC, have a short question & answer period and vote during a conference call sometime between March 21 to March 24 or April 4 to April 7. I need to know when would be the best time for the majority of you - so please take a look at the list of dates below, mark beside them which dates are definitely OUT, which are OK and which would work BEST (noting time period if necessary) - then send it back to me. Please keep in mind that this call could be as quick as 30 -40 minutes.

Sometime from 1000 to 200 on the following days:

Monday (3/21)

Tuesday (3/22)

Wednesday (3/23)

Thursday (3/24)

Monday (4/4)

Tuesday (4/5)

Wednesday (4/6)

Thursday (4/7)

If we have favorable vote to include ABC, I will immediately ask the National CESU office to prepare the paperwork to add both JMU and ABC, send it out to their offices for approval and signatures - then send it out to the appropriate offices of the rest of you. It would be good to have this stuff done by the beginning of field season.

Thanks for your quick response !!!

Nancy

Nancy Mathews Castro  
CW CESU Program Coordinator  
Appalachian Laboratory UMCES  
301 Braddock Road  
Frostburg, MD 21532  
phone: (301) 689-7152  
fax: (301) 689-7200  
ncastro@al.umces.edu  
<http://cesu.al.umces.edu/>