



EVERYTHING FUNDING DECISION-MAKERS SHOULD KNOW

The Fall Flights program empowers state fish and wildlife agencies to make investments in waterfowl breeding habitat conservation in Canada. State agencies seeking to tap into the economic and recreation benefits are using funding mechanisms like duck stamps, license fees or Pittman-Robertson funds to invest in Fall Flights.

SHARED RESOURCE, SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

We're all in this together. Waterfowl migrating from Canada fulfill national pastimes, like hunting and birding, and generate an estimated \$38 billion in associated U.S. economic activity. About 70 per cent of waterfowl harvested in the U.S. depend on Canadian breeding grounds. Your state's hunters and wildlife watchers do, too.

INVESTING NOW YIELDS OUTSIZED RETURNS

A dollar invested today translates into multiple dollars of habitat conserved and dollars reclaimed in economic activity. Every state dollar invested in Fall Flights is matched by partner funding and further amplified by NAWCA grants and a favorable exchange rate. State dollars can be leveraged to over 4X in conservation value.

VISIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Results are measurable (acres conserved, dollars contributed, economic impact) and can be reported back to your constituents. Guided by science, Fall Flights investments are informed by the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, the cutting-edge research of Ducks Unlimited Canada's Institute for Wetland and Waterfowl Research as well as Canadian migratory bird joint ventures ensuring decisions are data-driven, transparent and impactful.



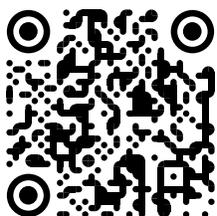


WHY YOUR ACTION MATTERS

Policy and budget decisions matter. Your role in approving or increasing state contributions to Fall Flights not only benefits waterfowl habitats but also drives economic impact, through tourism and recreation back home.

WHAT STATE DECISION-MAKERS CAN DO

- ⊕ Champion funding mechanisms (*e.g. state duck stamps, license fees, wildlife funds*) that feed into Fall Flights
- ⊕ Support increased state funding for Fall Flights in the next appropriations
- ⊕ Encourage 100% state participation by 2026 as currently targeted
- ⊕ Achieve one of the following 2026 Uniting States for Fall Flights campaign milestones:
 - ⊕ **Stay on the Water** at your state's goal.
 - ⊕ **Touch Down** at your state's goal.
 - ⊕ **Lock In** at 50% of your state's goal and develop a plan to reach 100% by 2031.
 - ⊕ **Take Flight** with an increase in your state's investment that will put you on a path towards your goal.



For questions or comments, please contact:

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SCOPE AND SCALE: FALL FLIGHTS ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2025, 18 states maintained or reached their funding target, and 14 states are now at 50% — **raising \$5.8 million towards the 2026 \$6-million goal.**

State investments generated **more than \$30.1 million** to conserve and restore nearly **94,000 new acres** and manage an existing **2.7 million acres.**

Since 1991, over \$112 million in state investments has resulted in **more than \$500 million in conservation actions.**

In 2022, U.S. hunters spent nearly **\$1.9 billion** hunting waterfowl that originated in Canada. Wildlife watchers spent **\$14.3 billion.** These pastimes support over **183,000 jobs.**

