

Zoos and Aquaria as Partners involved in Urban Bird Treaty City Projects

For ZAPT Collaborations

Baltimore, MD: The National Aquarium in Baltimore is one of the FWS most important UBT partners. They cost share with FWS a Greater Baltimore Wilderness Coordinator who implements the NFWF 5 Star UBT grants. FWS collaborates with them on projects, events, etc. The Baltimore Zoo is participating in our Celebrate Baltimore Birds day on October 1st, which will include a formal designation event and signing ceremony. We also send our FWS staff to the zoo for Celebrate Endangered Species day in May.

Chicago, IL: Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago recently hosted the FWS Region 3 Migratory Bird Treaty Centennial event. They have an Urban Wildlife Institute that has partnered with FWS on a number of general wildlife projects.

Kennedale, TX: The City of Kenenndale did one outreach program with the Heard Natural Science Museum as part of a larger event. I believe we've had some programs from the Blackland Prairie Raptor Center after our grant funded ended but in continuation of our bird-related educational activity.

Albuquerque, NM: As part of the Albuquerque Urban Bird Treaty, the partnership had a series of birding geocaches and an associated calendar; one of the locations we featured was Tingley ponds/Tingley beach which is part of the Albuquerque Bio Park. Here is more info on the Geocache challenge: <http://www.berncobernie.com/#!burque-birding-geoflight-geocache/c1lxp>; And Tingley Beach: <http://www.cabq.gov/culturalservices/biopark>; We have other partnerships between the urban refuge (Valle de Oro) and the Bio Park outside of the UMBT.

Portland, OR: As a cross-program effort in FWS Region 1, we recently formed a partnership with the Oregon Zoo in response to an opportunity to partner on a new education center that Metro (the regional government organization that runs the zoo) is building with support from a bond measure passed a couple years ago. It's scheduled to open in early 2017 and is incorporating bird-friendly design elements into the new building construction, as part of the Portland UBT. This new partnership has opened many new opportunities for us to reach the public about migratory birds and more. A new position was just filled for a FWS employee to work full-time at the zoo to strengthen the partnership.

St. Louis, MO: St. Louis Zoo has hosted International Migratory Bird Day events as part of the UBT program in the city.