

About Bird Conservation



Ethical Consumerism & Birds

Bird Awareness

- In 2013, Environment Canada determined that human activities directly or indirectly cause about 269 million bird deaths in Canada each year.
- Our coordinated brochure and PowerPoint series addresses common bird conservation issues and suggests ways that you can help. There are simple changes that you can make to help save birds.

Ethical Consumerism

Birds are impacted by your choices.
As consumers, we can choose to
make informed and ethical
decisions.



What are the Problems?

Habitat Destruction

- Deforestation for farming reduces available bird habitat

Plastic Ingestion

- Consumption of plastic can kill

Habitat Destruction



- Forest fragmentation can result in habitat loss
- Example: palm oil production

Farming Practices

- Monocultures cause loss in biodiversity
- Pesticides limit food availability and can harm birds directly from exposure



Wetland Destruction

- Wetlands are an important habitat
- Removal of wetlands occurs in settled areas
- The biggest cause of this is agricultural crop production



Better Practices Support Biodiversity

- Shade grown coffee and cocoa
- Supporting organic farming practices



Plastic Ingestion

- Northern fulmers average 36.8 pieces of ingested plastic
- Plastic can also carry toxins such as hormone-disrupting chemicals that get released once digested



Plastic ingestion

An important way to decrease bird deaths is by avoiding single-use plastics such as:

- Grocery bags
- Straws
- Water bottles
- Balloons
- Cutlery



Microplastics

- Textiles are now commonly made from plastic
- Plastic clothing breaks down in washing and tumble drying, creating microplastics
- Microplastics accumulate in food chains harming birds



So what can you do?



- Look for the Rainforest Alliance Logo
- Shade-grown brands
- Buy FAIRTRADE certified chocolate
- Use reusable plastic
- Properly dispose of plastics
- Buy organically sourced food
- Use less plastic clothing & less tumble dry

Better consumer choices

Many coffee companies use bird-friendly certified beans. Look for the label when deciding what to buy!

- Serious Coffee
- Shuswap Coffee Company
- Paradise Mountain Organic Coffee
- Kicking Horse Coffee



Better consumer choices

Two commonly seen logos:

- Rainforest Alliance and FAIRTRADE

Buying these products ensures:

- Better labour standards
- Improved living conditions
- Improved environmental sustainability



*Left: FAIRTRADE Certified Mark
Right: Rainforest Alliance Certified Logo*

Conclusion: Ethical Consumerism Summary

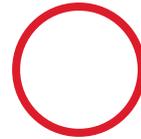
Plastics

- Use reusable products
- Properly dispose of plastic products
- Avoid single use products

Habitat Conservation

- Shade grown coffee and cocoa
- Support organic farming
- Buy certified products

Other PowerPointPoints in this series



**How Pets
Affect
Birds**

**Outdoor
Recreation
with Birds**

**Creating A
Bird-
Friendly
Home**

**Bird
Friendly
Gardening**

About Rocky Point Bird Observatory



Rocky Point Bird Observatory has been monitoring bird populations on southern Vancouver Island since 1994. A member of the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network, RPBO relies on support from volunteers, members, and donors to fill its mandate of conservation through monitoring, research, and public education.

To support or join Rocky Point Bird Observatory, or to arrange a visit or educational program, please visit our website at rpbo.org.

Resources and References

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