

# 15th Anniversary POINT REYES BIRDING & NATURE FESTIVAL APRIL 19th - 21st, 2024

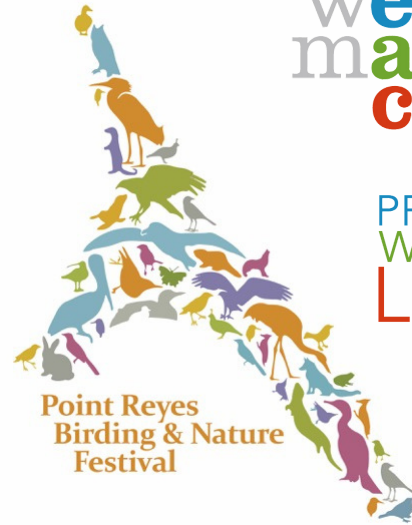
[pointreyesbirdingfestival.org](http://pointreyesbirdingfestival.org)  
[eacmarin.org](http://eacmarin.org)

## Overview

The Point Reyes Birding & Nature Festival celebrates spring bird and wildlife migrations along the Pacific Flyway in Marin and Sonoma counties (and sometimes beyond). View how to get involved on the next page, and at [pointreyesbirdingfestival.org](http://pointreyesbirdingfestival.org).

Point Reyes National Seashore, a unit of the National Park Service and one of only ten federally protected seashores in the U.S., provides the main backdrop for our festival, where the Pacific Flyway, Pacific Ocean, and other influences provide an ideal location for birding and wildlife viewing. Point Reyes has been named the National Audubon Society's #1 birding hotspot for numerous years in a row, where 54%+ of all North American bird species have been seen and recorded. In April, California's Mediterranean climate allows us to see wintering and breeding birds overlapping along this coastal hotspot, however, birds are not the only thing you'll see. This place is a coastal hotspot for discovering whales, elk, or wildflowers, and a plethora of other wildlife including deer, fox, coyotes, skunk, raccoons, weasels, seals, river otters, and a variety of amphibians and reptiles, amongst the open grasslands, oak woodlands, douglas fir and bishop pine forests.

**Proceeds support the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin's (EAC) nonprofit mission** to protect and sustain the unique lands, waters, and biodiversity in coastal Marin, fondly known as West Marin, through advocacy, education, and engagement programs year-round. Our efforts are often not fought overnight, so long-term member and community support is critical to ensuring we can take action to address our environmental tipping points in coastal Marin. Some of our successes since 1971 include protecting the Tomales Dunes at Dillon Beach, wilderness at Drakes Estero, the eelgrass habitat in Tomales Bay, nesting and migratory bird protections in Marin County, securing a ban for offshore oil and gas development in Marin County, and improved water quality in Point Reyes National Seashore.



west  
marin  
environmental  
action  
committee

PROTECT  
WHAT YOU  
LOVE

Celebrate spring bird and wildlife migrations along the Pacific Flyway in Marin and Sonoma counties and help safeguard our coast.

Learn more about the festival, guides, and events.



# COME HAVE A HOOT WITH US!

# POINT REYES BIRDING & NATURE FESTIVAL

## APRIL 19th - 21st, 2024



## How to Participate



**Join as an Attendee: Register Online for the Festival**  
**Choose from up to 40+ educational field-based events** focused on birds, wildlife, plants, and marine life + hiking, kayaking, field photography, and journaling with award-winning naturalists, birders, and educators. **EAC Members get early bird registration February 23rd-29th before the public and waived registration fees.** Individual membership starts at \$35, or \$50 for a household of two. Join on our festival website, and you will receive a code to register.



**Friday Opening Reception for Protect What You Love: Art as Advocacy Artshow** from 5 - 7 PM at the EAC Office.

Join us at our downtown Point Reyes Station office for the opening reception of the Protect What You Love: Art as Advocacy art show to kick off the 15th Anniversary of the Point Reyes Birding & Nature Festival. The exhibit will be open for the entire festival weekend and through June 2024. We will provide light refreshments. RSVP at [pointreyesbirdingfestival.org](http://pointreyesbirdingfestival.org).



**Attend our Saturday Social & Keynote Benefit with Nils Warnock, Conservation Director of Audubon Canyon Ranch**

Join our guides, attendees, and staff for a social gathering with dinner, games and to hear from our keynote. This is a special opportunity to meet our community and learn something unique about our region while having fun. Tickets through Festival registration.



**Attend our free Sunday Family Fun Day Ages 3+**

Bring your entire brood, and especially your budding birders for activities including a visit from live bird ambassadors, plus bird and wildlife feather/skin, skull and egg identification, owl pellet dissection, check your wing span activity, mask making, and bird origami, plus so much more. Proceeds benefit our partner Amigos Alados (Winged Friends), a pen pal program between Marin and Mexico that brings culture and science together. RSVP at [pointreyesbirdingfestival.org](http://pointreyesbirdingfestival.org).



**Join our Team (Contact us at [events@eacmarin.org](mailto:events@eacmarin.org))  
Become a Trip Leader and/or Volunteer**

We are always looking for experienced naturalists and birders who have a passion for education and work well with a variety of ages and experience levels to join our festival team. Guides can volunteer their services or are provided with a stipend, event tee, and one ticket to our keynote social gathering. Additional volunteer opportunities for volunteers online.



**Become a Friend of the Festival Sponsor**

Sponsors help the festival take flight, and whose support is critical to our mission. Various levels and perks.



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Learn more about the festival, guides, and events.



# Grassroots Advocacy in Action

The Environmental Action Committee of West Marin (EAC) is a grassroots nonprofit organization working to protect and sustain the unique lands, waters, and biodiversity of coastal Marin since 1971.

We accomplish our work through advocacy, education, and engagement programs.

**Individuals, like you, support 70% of our work through generous tax-deductible contributions.**

Together, we unite people, place, science, and policy to save vital ecosystems, defend environmental laws, demand accountability from our leaders, and mobilize community members to preserve and protect coastal Marin.

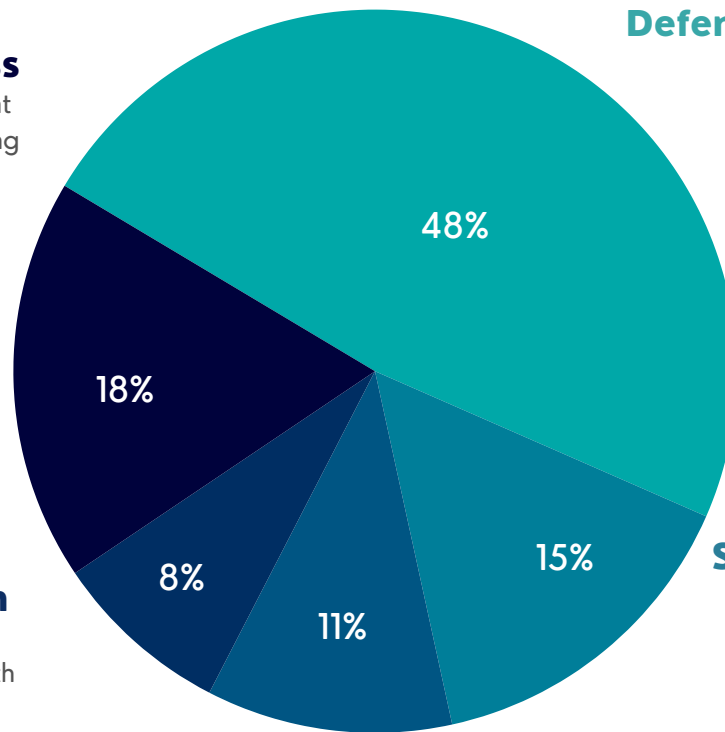
## What We Do

### Foster Environmental Education & Awareness

We deliver education programs that connect people and place, including our annual Point Reyes Birding & Nature Festival and environmental office exhibits, which raise awareness and increase community engagement.

### Enrich Community Action & Appreciation

We connect with our community through action and appreciation with our annual Member Meeting and Environmental Awards, Piper on Ridge, and Winter Gathering events that strengthen our community ties and partnerships.



### Defend Our Lands, Waters & Biodiversity

We protect public lands and coastal access, advocate for sustainable community development, safeguard our coast and ocean, reduce trash and toxins, and defend resilient watersheds in coastal Marin from harm and habitat loss.

### Safeguard Our Future

In the face of the climate crisis, we advocate to reduce carbon pollution and increase coastal resilience guided by science and with a lens on nature-based solutions.

### Empower Future Advocates

We create opportunities for the next generation to gain skills to defend the environment through our advocacy, policy, data, and science internship programs for high school, college, and graduate students. In addition, we provide outdoor awareness and educational field trips in Marin County Parks to help youth discover, observe, and track data in the field.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. - Margaret Mead



## Advocacy

- Engaged in the public process to push for stronger management measures for the Point Reyes National Seashore General Management Plan and Water Quality Strategy implementation, emphasizing the need for transparency and accountability.
- Upheld the California Coastal Act to preserve delicate ecosystems, ensure public access, protect scenic views, and maintain the integrity of water quality including lobbying in Sacramento.
- Led the effort to successfully adopt first-of-its-kind statewide aquaculture criteria or guidance for the siting of new leases, ensuring that the leases are in the public interest, and supported biodiversity protections like improving sustainability in fishing methods.
- Advocated with partners for increased legislative power and funding to help the state and the Bay Area become more climate resilient by requiring cities to submit shoreline resilience plans.

## Education

- Launched and managed the Cleaner California Coast Initiative, a collaboration between three counties (Marin, Sonoma, and Mendocino) with Leave No Trace to increase public stewardship and lessen coastal pollution through a coordinated messaging campaign focused on education, training, and actions to reduce litter and increase protection and stewardship of our coast including a successful waste audit Point Reyes Station.
- Expanded our internship program and launched the "Capstone Conversations" a community forum for summer interns to showcase their contributions. In total, we hosted four Legal & Policy, three Coastal Advocates, and four Communication interns bringing our total internships to 55 since 2015.
- Trained a cohort of 11 volunteers for our Duxbury Reef docent program, expanding our outreach to help protect sensitive rocky intertidal habitat and marine life.
- Provided four educational field trips to Duxbury Reef and Roy's Redwoods, serving 52 local youth and inspiring the next generation.

## Engagement

- Expanded our Litter Bugs Me roadside and coastal clean-up efforts to twice a year, and removed over 748 lbs. of trash and 133 lbs. of recycling from wildlife habitats and watersheds.
- Initiated pop-up educational displays on advocacy and the climate crisis, opening up fresh avenues for public engagement, and resulting in new partnerships, members, and opportunities to expand our mission.
- Trained 37 new Marin MPA Watch volunteers, expanding our collaborative community science program, which turned 10 this year.
- Held engaging and educational events including the Point Reyes Birding & Nature Festival, Piper on the Ridge, and our Member Meeting, bringing our community together in the places we love.