



IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS PROGRAM

WISCONSIN BIRD CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

IBA spatial data: Statement of Use and Disclaimer of Warranties

The Wisconsin Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program is part of the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative (WBCI), a collaborative, statewide partnership of over 160 different agencies, NGOs, and businesses that have endorsed a general framework for bird conservation in Wisconsin. IBAs are sites containing critical habitat for one or more species of breeding or non-breeding birds. They are identified through a nomination process involving technical review by a panel of bird and habitat experts, using science-based criteria and supporting documentation, particularly data on bird diversity and abundance. The IBA 'designation' is a voluntary one that recognizes the importance of a site for birds and encourages conservation and management to maintain or improve the resources that make the site significant. IBA site boundaries are delineated to encompass all or most of the resources and features required by the species for which the sites are important, and are meant to be used to support voluntary, collaborative stewardship strategies for those resources and features. The identification of a site as an IBA carries no legal status or regulatory requirements whatsoever.

The IBA Program makes provision for periodic review of IBAs, as bird populations and habitats can shift, increase, or decline with a changing landscape. New sites may be added and existing sites can increase or decrease in size or be eliminated altogether. IBA boundaries, therefore, are dynamic and may change over time. WBCI provides spatial data on IBA boundaries "as is", and makes no warranty as to their future accuracy nor to their fitness or suitability for any particular purpose. Responsibility for the appropriate use of IBA boundary data rests solely with the users of those data.