

A large flock of shorebirds, possibly sandpipers, is captured in flight against a blurred background. The birds are shown in various stages of wing movement, with some wings fully extended and others partially folded. Their plumage is a mix of brown, grey, and white, with some individuals showing darker wingtips. The overall scene conveys a sense of movement and natural behavior.

# Birds Know No Borders



# Conserving Shorebirds through Community Engagement

## Why this matters to you:

Migratory shorebird populations are declining across North America. These birds that travel thousands of kilometers, stopping along the way and contributing to the effective functioning of North American coastal ecosystems, also support the sustainable economy, with bird watchers contributing billions of dollars each year on travel and equipment. The Canadian, Mexican, and US governments have a mandate to protect shorebirds under Atlantic and Pacific flyway shorebird initiatives, the Arctic Council's Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative, and the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. Local and Indigenous communities are indispensable to protect habitats and birds at key stopovers along flyways to make sure these birds come back year after year. However, communities need the knowledge, tools, and motivation to take ownership of conservation and recognize it as a path to sustainable economic development through bird-based tourism.

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## HELPING LOCAL AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES IMPROVE THEIR LIVELIHOODS THROUGH CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SHOREBIRD HABITAT AND SUSTAINABLE TOURISM.

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### Because of the CEC...

- Bird-based tourism initiatives have been developed at several sites across North America, building support for long-term stewardship of shorebirds.
- An educational brochure series, training webinars, and local marketing brochures have been developed for local and Indigenous communities to expand bird-based tourism.
- Local organizations and partners along each flyway collaborate and share knowledge, experience, and best practices.
- Local and Indigenous communities have shared their perspective on migratory birds through a video documentary.

For more information: [www.cec.org/Shorebirds](http://www.cec.org/Shorebirds)

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