

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



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**ATLANTA AUDUBON NAMES JARED TEUTSCH AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**(Atlanta, Ga.) October 28, 2019** – Atlanta Audubon has named Jared Teutsch as its new Executive Director. Teutsch comes to Atlanta Audubon from The Nature Conservancy in Georgia, where he served as Director of Conservation for five years.

As Executive Director, Teutsch will be responsible for enhancing Atlanta Audubon's programs through organizational development, impactful advocacy, and continued growth. In addition to these strategic initiatives, he will oversee a roughly \$1 million budget and ensure the long-term viability of the organization through successful fundraising, in cooperation with the board and staff, to meet the financial and strategic needs of the organization.

Atlanta Audubon Society is a member-supported, non-profit organization dedicated to developing a conservation-minded and fully engaged Georgia where birds prosper, habitats flourish, and public understanding grows. With the mission of building places where birds and people thrive, Atlanta Audubon strives to create bird-friendly communities through conservation, education, and advocacy along with activities that build community and foster the joy of birding.

"With the recent devastating news in the Audubon Climate Report and the news that we have lost nearly three billion birds in North America over the last 50 years, we need outstanding leadership in conservation," says Esther Stokes, Chair, Board of Directors. "We feel confident we have found that person in Jared. We believe he has both the skill set and the vision to propel Atlanta Audubon to the next level and to help us expand our work building places where birds and people thrive."

Prior to his appointment as Executive Director for Atlanta Audubon, Teutsch served as Director of Conservation for The Nature Conservancy where he managed a diverse team of 21 scientists and practitioners while overseeing budgets, work plans, strategy reporting, and key communications. He has extensive experience developing fundraising and policy support for critical conservation efforts, including ecosystem restoration, habitat management, and land protection. He also has expertise communicating with elected officials, government staff, business leaders, and communities. Jared brings to this position more than 18 years of nonprofit and public service experience, including 15 years in senior management, specifically devoted to conservation.

In the past, Teutsch has directed the Alliance for the Great Lakes invasive species and water sustainability programs, while serving as the senior liaison to state and federal officials. He has helped write many laws and regulations on ecosystem restoration and invasive species, and been recognized as a leader in conservation policy and law—including being appointed by the governor of New Hampshire to help spearhead efforts to protect state-owned waterfront habitat.

A native of Michigan, Teutsch holds a bachelor of science in environmental science and policy from Michigan State University and a Juris Doctor degree focusing on land use and water law from Vermont Law School. He is a graduate of the Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership (IGEL) and a member of the Georgia Ornithological Society and the South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative. He and his wife live in Canton with their three children.

“I am excited about this opportunity to lead Atlanta Audubon and help build upon the legacy of local conservation,” says Teutsch. “I have built my career on changing the world by making a positive impact on my community, and I look forward to working with the board and staff to create a vision for a sustainable ecosystem where birds and people thrive.”

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**Media Note:** Photos to accompany this article and a MS Word version of this press release are available for download at <https://bit.ly/2xT2BmQ>.

*Atlanta Audubon Society is building places where birds and people thrive. We create birds -friendly communities through conservation, education, and advocacy.*