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**GEORGIA HOUSE RESOLUTION DECLARES 2026 “THE YEAR OF THE GEORGIA BIRDING TRAIL”**

**(ATLANTA, GA) March 11, 2026** – The Georgia House of Representatives recognized 2026 as the **Year of the Georgia Birding Trail**, celebrating a new statewide initiative led by **Birds Georgia** honoring the organization’s centennial year.

The resolution, sponsored by **Rep. Mary Margaret Oliver and Rep. Debbie Buckner** and introduced on the House floor by **Rep. Mary Frances Williams** on March 10, acknowledges the importance of birds, birding, and conservation to Georgia’s natural heritage and economy.

The Georgia Birding Trail is the legacy project of **Birds Georgia’s 100th anniversary**. When complete, the trail will form a network of hundreds of birding hotspots organized into regional loops spanning the state – from the Appalachian Mountains to Georgia’s coastal marshes. Each location will be carefully selected for its accessibility, amenities, habitat quality, and diversity of birdlife.

By guiding visitors to some of the state’s best places to experience birds, the Georgia Birding Trail will help showcase Georgia’s remarkable biodiversity while making birding more accessible to residents and visitors alike.

“We’re grateful to Rep. Oliver, Rep. Buckner, and Rep. Williams for recognizing the importance of birds and conservation in Georgia, and to our Board member Sally Sears for championing this resolution,” said Executive Director Adam Betuel. “We’re excited to launch the Georgia Birding Trail in 2026 and help more people discover the remarkable birds and habitats that make Georgia so special.”

In addition to connecting people with nature, the initiative aims to support local communities and conservation efforts across the state. Birding is one of the fastest-growing outdoor activities in the United States and generates significant economic benefits through travel and ecotourism.

Additional information about the Georgia Birding Trail will be announced throughout 2026 as new locations and regional loops are added across the state.

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***About Birds Georgia:** Birds Georgia is building places where birds and people thrive. We create bird-friendly communities through conservation, education, and community engagement. Founded in 1926 as the Atlanta Bird Club, the organization became a chapter of National Audubon in 1973, and continues as an independent chapter of National Audubon Society. Birds Georgia is celebrating its Centennial in 2026. Learn more at <https://www.birdsgeorgia.org/>.*