

**Bird Conservation Efforts in Sinaloa, México**  
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Bird conservation in Sinaloa began with a joint effort between the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences and a group of local biologists eager to protect Sinaloa's biodiversity. The Birder's Exchange Program donated several binoculars to implement shorebird surveys in one of the most important areas for migratory species in NW México. The first project was a workshop to identify, manage, and conserve shorebirds, to conduct a shorebird survey, and to provide an Environmental Education Program. A series of conservation activities followed the first project, including:

1. Designation of Santa María and Ceuta Bays as Hemispheric and Regional sites in the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network.
2. Environmental Education Programs during the last five years at Santa María, Ceuta, Ensenada de Pabellones, Cacaxtla and El Palmito, Sinaloa, (The programs included environmental education material, TV programs, mobile classroom, cleaning of islands, shorebird festivals, among others.).
3. International agreements to protect shared migratory bird species among the mayors of Panamá, Angostura, Sinaloa and Cordova, Alaska.
4. Private land conservation programs to protect the Península de Lucenilla (conservation easement with the longest coastal litoral in Latin America, 76 miles, including more than 16,000 acres), the purchase of 870 acres of prime shorebird habitat in Santa María Bay, and 13,500 acres to protect the habitat of the Tufted Jay, an endemic and charismatic bird species from the Sierra Madre;
5. Restoration of various coastal ecosystems; and
6. Scientific research with different national and international institutions.

These activities are the foundations of our conservation efforts in Sinaloa. Everything started with a few binoculars from the Birders Exchange Program.