



## NEWS RELEASE

### **Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day with a special event**

SUPERIOR, Ariz. — Visitors from across Arizona can attend a special event on International Migratory Bird Day and learn why 46 million Americans enjoy bird watching.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department, Boyce Thompson Arboretum, Resolution Copper Company, Partners in Flight, and the Arizona Bird Conservation Initiative are sponsoring a day of fun-filled activities, including a guided bird walk, a bird photography class, bird watching 101, and great kids' activities. Visitors will also have a chance to see a hawk, a peregrine falcon, a burrowing owl, and other native birds from the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Wildlife Center at Adobe Mountain. The event will take place at Boyce Thompson Arboretum on Saturday, May 8, starting at 7 a.m.

"We're going to make this an exciting day for the whole family to get out and enjoy nature," says Robert Magill, a bird conservation biologist with the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Boyce Thompson Arboretum offers visitors the perfect place to do some bird watching on this special day. Located on 320 acres at the base of a mountain, the arboretum features one of the most beautifully situated botanical gardens in the southwestern United States.

"The arboretum and botanical garden are designed to increase people's appreciation of the Earth's many varied plants," says Paul Wolterbeek, volunteer program coordinator at the arboretum. "We have two miles of walking paths for bird watching."

The Arizona Game and Fish Department participates in marking International Migratory Bird Day every year. Events focus on the journey of migratory birds between their summer and winter homes.

Jennifer Russo, corporate communications director for Resolution Copper Company, calls the event "a wonderful opportunity to foster partnerships among organizations and to learn more about avian habitat and bird conservation."

International Migratory Bird Day was created in 1993 by the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Event posters and calendars will be available at the arboretum.

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