



SOUTHERN WINGS

State Agency Achievement Awards

September 17, 2026 • 12:15–1:15PM • AFWA Annual Meeting

Lunch Sponsor: National Audubon Society



BRONZE TIER

Snowy Plover

ID · IA · KY · NE · NM · NV · MI · OR · UT

SILVER TIER

Chestnut-collared Longspur

GA · IN · KS · MN · TN · WA · ME · MA · SC · OH

GOLD TIER

Wood Thrush

CO · PA

PLATINUM LEADERSHIP TIER

Cerulean Warbler

AR · AZ · MO · NC · TX

SPECIAL & ANNUAL AWARDS

Founding Flyway Laurel — A special, one-time recognition explicitly honoring three states as the pioneers of Southern Wings. *Arizona, Arkansas, Missouri*

First Flight Award — For states joining Southern Wings for the first time while meeting the 25% investment challenge. *Georgia, Maine, Massachusetts*

Change Maker Award — For states that met or exceeded the 25% investment challenge this year.

Colorado, Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas

Migration Legacy Award — The program's highest single-state honor, for exceptional contributions sustained over time. *Pennsylvania*

About the Artist — Sara Wolman

Sara Wolman is an artist, naturalist, and conservation communicator working between Alaska and Baja California Sur, Mexico. A former National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ranger and educator, she was the 2021 featured artist for World Migratory Bird Day and is a longtime creative force behind Fat Bear Week. She currently serves as Naturalist and Art Director for explore.org, using illustration and storytelling to connect audiences with wildlife, migration, and ecological change.



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With gratitude to every state agency advancing Southern Wings' mission across the Western Hemisphere