



COP30 FOREST PAVILION:

A Shared Commitment to Our Planet

2025 UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP30)

10-21 November 2025, Belém, Brazil

Acoustics, Birds, and Carbon: The “A, B, Cs” of measuring and monitoring biodiversity co-benefits of climate action

November 10th 2025, 09:40 - 10:35

National Audubon Society, Interamerican Development Bank (IADB), Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF)

Concept Note

I. Background

Nature-based solutions (NBS) in forests are some of the most promising approaches globally for mitigating climate change and enhancing ecosystem resilience. These same NBS approaches can deliver significant benefits for biodiversity -- but tracking those outcomes has long been a challenge. Today, advances in low-cost acoustic monitoring technology are transforming our ability to measure biodiversity in real time using birds as a proxy for biodiversity in forest ecosystems.

The National Audubon Society’s Bird-Friendliness Index is a scalable, scientifically rigorous tool that allows land managers, funders, and policy makers to measure and track over time changes in biodiversity outcomes. Audubon and partners will discuss how acoustic monitoring and the Bird Friendliness Index are being used by ranchers, major development banks, First Nations, and more to assess how changing land management practices and associated policies, including climate action, lead to changes in bird biodiversity throughout the Americas. These examples, spanning the hemisphere and ranging from activity-scale to multinational portfolios, point to the diverse range of climate use cases for the Bird-Friendliness Index. Insights can ultimately help enhance nature-based solution and clean energy programs, unlock new funding pathways, and accelerate global progress on climate and biodiversity goals.

II. Objectives

- Present cutting-edge science that facilitates low-cost monitoring of the biodiversity co-benefits of climate programs and investments;
- Highlight a diverse set of contexts in which acoustic monitoring and the Bird Friendliness Index are being used across the Americas;
- Discuss climate-related case studies in which the Bird Friendliness Index could help enhance programming, unlock finance, and build stakeholder confidence in activity outcomes.

III. Programme/Schedules of Events/Speakers

NOTE: May be refined before November 10

Schedule	Title	Description	Speakers
00:00 – 00:03	Opening Remarks	Opening comments, welcome	Chad Wilsey, Chief Scientist, National Audubon Society
00:03-00:20	Acoustic monitoring and Bird Friendliness Index	Presentation of groundbreaking new monitoring approaches to understanding how biodiversity co-benefits respond to climate action, and how this technology is in use across the Americas	Chad Wilsey, Chief Scientist, National Audubon Society
00:20-00:25	Case study 1: IADB Portfolio	Discussion on how the InterAmerican Development Bank is using the Bird Friendliness Index	IADB, tbc
00:25-00:30	Case study 2: Americas Flyways Initiative	Discussion on how the Development Bank for Latin America and the Caribbean intends to use the Bird Friendliness Index in monitoring investments under the Americas Flyways Initiative	CAF, tbc
00:30-00:38	Relevance to Climate Action	Interactive discussion of the relevance of this monitoring approach to climate policies, programs, and funding, including Slido questions	Chris Dragisic, Managing Director for Global Policy, National Audubon Society
00:38-00:58	Moderated Q&A	Audience participation to share perspectives, challenges, and views on how acoustic monitoring and the Bird Friendliness Index could support climate action	Chad Wilsey, Chief Scientist, National Audubon Society
00:58-1:00	Closing Comments	Summary of the main insights and recommendations emerging from the discussion. Identification of potential collaboration areas for scaling restoration concessions under Brazil's climate finance agenda.	Chad Wilsey, Chief Scientist, National Audubon Society

IV. Expected main messages

- 1. Nature-Based Solutions are critical pathways to achieving climate mitigation and adaptation goals at scale.**
- 2. Nature-Based Solutions also deliver key co-benefits, including for biodiversity.**
- 3. Inexpensive, user-friendly monitoring technologies now facilitate the monitoring of the biodiversity co-benefits of climate action.**
- 4. Measuring and monitoring biodiversity co-benefits of climate action can unlock both financing and stakeholder support.**

V. Focal Point/Contact

Chris Dragisic, Managing Director for Global Policy, National Audubon Society

Email: Christine.dragisic@audubon.org

Phone: +12025382588