



# News Release

## *Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex*

Block Island NWR □ John H. Chafee NWR at Pettaquamscutt Cove □ Ninigret NWR □ Sachuest Point NWR □ Trustom Pond NWR

50 Bend Road, Charlestown, RI 02813

401/364-9124 Fax: 401/364-0170

### **For Further Information, Contact:**

Janis Nepshinsky, Visitor Services Manager, 401.364.9124, extension 28

### **For Immediate Release:**

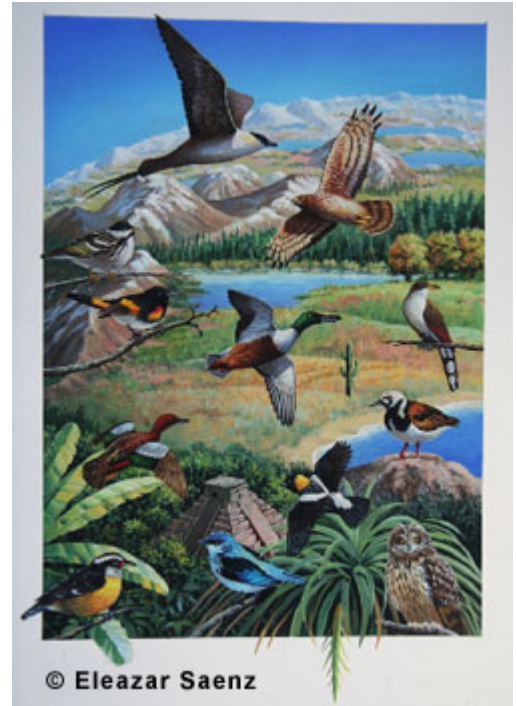
## **Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuges Celebrate**

### **International Migratory Bird Day on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) is an annual event to celebrate and support migratory bird conservation. The theme for this year's event is "Tropics to Tundra: Connecting Birds, Habitats and People." The celebration will take place at Trustom Pond National Wildlife Refuge on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. There will be a "Live Bird of Prey" show, nature crafts, "Junior Birder Patches" to earn, educational displays, binoculars to loan, great hiking trails, IMBD t-shirts for sale, free posters/bird tattoos, and a guided bird walk in memory of Stuart Keeble, an avid birder. Come join us in celebrating the birds!

Migratory birds are some of the most beautiful, observable, and remarkable wildlife that share our world. Many know migratory birds as symbolic harbingers of spring and melodious songsters of the woods. Like any day of recognition, IMBD exists to focus attention on something important and marvelous -- in this case, the journey birds undertake between their summer and winter homes. IMBD was created specifically to highlight the migration of nearly 350 species of migratory birds between nesting habitats in North America and non-breeding grounds in South and Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean. However, the day serves as an opportunity to celebrate all the species of birds whose annual movements enliven our lands, waters and skies.

Migratory birds are also an important economic resource, controlling insect pests and generating billions in recreational dollars. Unfortunately, research has shown that many migratory bird species are in decline, facing a growing number of threats on their migration routes and in both their summer and winter habitats. Thus, IMBD, in addition to being a day to foster appreciation, is a call to action.



This event is sponsored by the Friends of the National Wildlife Refuges of Rhode Island. For more IMBD information web: <http://birds.fws.gov/imbd> phone - 703/358-2318 For IMBD materials: web - <http://www.BirdDay.org> phone - 1-866/334-3330