



*in Recognition of the 2026*

**GODWIT DAYS**

**SPRING MIGRATION BIRD FESTIVAL**

*April 16-19, 2026*

**WHEREAS**, about 96 million Americans enjoy observing, photographing or feeding wild birds and a 2022 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service study found that birdwatchers contributed about \$107.6 billion to the U.S. economy; and

**WHEREAS**, birding is the 15th most popular outdoor activity, just below bicycling. About 43 million birders take trips exclusively to commune with other birders or count birds by sight or sound; and

**WHEREAS**, the Godwit Days Spring Migration Bird Festival showcases the area's rich diversity of birds, normally attracting tourists from all over the United States, and makes Humboldt County a birding destination; and

**WHEREAS**, Godwit Days has attracted over 350 registered participants in past years, with over 50 percent of whom came from out of the area; and

**WHEREAS**, eco-tourism continues to be an important contributing segment of the North Coast economy. Humboldt Bay, its river estuaries, the region's mountains, coniferous forests, and rugged ocean coast habitats offer a variety of bird species for viewing that surpasses the total bird species counts of 40 states and 10 Canadian provinces.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the City Council of the City of Arcata hereby recognizes the Humboldt County businesses and residents who are participating in the **2026 Godwit Days Spring Migration Bird Festival**, as well as future birding visitors to the Pacific North Coast. May they be inspired to migrate back just as the birds have been doing for centuries.

*Dated: April 1, 2026*

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*Kimberley White*  
*Mayor*