



*Our featured “bird in crisis” or of concern (many countries) this year: The Arctic Tern, as representative of other birds in decline, including other federally labelled endangered species, such as the Roseate Tern.*

WISHING YOU JOY AND WONDER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON,  
HAPPINESS AND HEALTH FOR 2026



*Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah.*

*We add to our card this year, the wonderful haiku poem by Takahama Kyoshi, Japan.*



*“Lantern light sways soft,  
friends’ songs echo by the shore —  
moon smiles down on us.”*

Lanterns and songs represent friendship, warmth, and harmony. The moon’s gentle smile symbolizes the quiet joy that friends bring to our lives.

*Eric Rosenbloom, Sherri Lange, and the team at North American Platform Against Wind Power  
Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah*

## Addendum

Arctic terns have the longest migration of all. This means a round trip of up to 35,000 km (22,000 miles) each year. By moving continually between the Arctic summer and the Antarctic summer, the Arctic tern sees more daylight than other animal on Earth. Over the course of their lives arctic terns traverse a vast distance. Some birds will travel the same length as a round trip between the earth and the moon three times!

*Our Christmas message includes this addendum, which reflects on the alarming growth of concerns re bird and bat and insect loss, globally, exponentially, due to the proliferation of industrial wind turbines.*

*Here are some facts about the Terns, just one of millions of impacted creatures from the scourge of industrial wind.*



<https://explorer.audubon.org/explore/species/928/arctic-tern/migration?sidebar=collapse&selectedHex=&zoom=2&x=-481660.7454500003&y=-1176172.5084499996&range=0.0458%2C0.0658>

Use [this interactive link](#) to track the Arctic Tern, for one example, on its surreal migration route, both sides of the USA.

[A roseate tern was reported at Sandy Hook](#) in early June. This is a federally endangered species, which only nests on Cape Cod, one location on Long Island, and one each in the Florida Keys and in the Bahamas.

[https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Roseate%20tern\\_fact%20sheet.pdf](https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Roseate%20tern_fact%20sheet.pdf)

About 200 to 250 pairs of roseate terns nest on Maine coastal islands. Roseate terns return to Maine nesting islands in mid-May. After courtship a clutch of One to five eggs are laid in mid-May to mid-June. The nest is a simple scrape on the ground in dense vegetation or under rocks or driftwood. Both parents incubate the eggs, which hatch in about 23 days. The chicks fledge 22 to 30 days after hatching. Habitat: The roseate tern nests on eight Maine islands. They often nest in dense vegetation or under debris and often around the perimeter of the island. They nest in close association with common and arctic terns. Roseate terns most often forage up to 15 miles from nesting islands wherever forage fish (especially sand lance) are abundant. They often feed near the mainland shore where there are shallow sand bars, mouths of rivers and streams, and in large salt marshes. After nesting season, roseate terns aggregate at high tide on traditional staging areas on sand spits and beaches and feed in nearby waters before migrating to the Caribbean and South America for winter. Occurrence in Maine: Currently nests on Stratton, Outer Green, Jenny, Pond, Eastern Egg, Seal, Metinic, and Petit Manan Islands. Staging areas are known on Wells and Laudholm beaches

The Essential Habitat designation requires that all projects or activities funded or carried out by municipalities or state agencies within a 1/4 mile of the islands are reviewed by the Maine Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife.

[https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/campaigns/esa\\_works/profile\\_pages/NortheastRoseateTern.html#:~:text=While%20breeding%2C%20they%20primarily%20feed,and%20proximity%20of%20sand%20lance.](https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/campaigns/esa_works/profile_pages/NortheastRoseateTern.html#:~:text=While%20breeding%2C%20they%20primarily%20feed,and%20proximity%20of%20sand%20lance.)

- **Habitat Disruption:** Siting wind farms (factories) near important bird habitats, such as headlands used for resting, refueling, or breeding, can disturb large populations. One proposed wind farm in Nova Scotia raised concerns because 75% of the Canadian breeding population of the endangered Roseate Tern foraged about 15 kilometers away, making them vulnerable.

<https://halifax.citynews.ca/2023/05/10/n-s-approves-wind-farm-but-federal-officials-worry-project-would-kill-at-risk-birds/#:~:text=N.S.%20approves%20wind%20farm%2C%20but,would%20kill%20at%20risk%20birds>



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