

SATELLITES ARE HELPING TO FEED TIRED AND HUNGRY BIRDS



1

00:00:02,180 --> 00:00:06,940

Satellites are helping to feed tired and hungry birds.

2

00:00:06,960 --> 00:00:10,950

A project using NASA / USGS satellites

3

00:00:10,970 --> 00:00:14,460

and citizen science

4

00:00:14,480 --> 00:00:19,320

has resulted in new 'pop-up' habitats for shorebirds.

5

00:00:19,340 --> 00:00:22,000

Roughly 7000 acres of temporary wetlands were created in California

6

00:00:22,020 --> 00:00:24,920

from February to April 2016

7

00:00:24,940 --> 00:00:30,220

to aid birds during their migration.

8

00:00:30,240 --> 00:00:35,500

Every spring, shorebirds migrate up the Pacific Flyway.

9

00:00:35,520 --> 00:00:41,840

During this long journey they refuel by feeding in wetlands

10

00:00:41,860 --> 00:00:45,990

but 95% of these habitats have been lost to farmland and drought.

11

00:00:46,010 --> 00:00:50,950

To help birds, The Nature Conservancy wanted to try something different.

12

00:00:50,970 --> 00:00:56,470

Their BirdReturns program partnered with farmers by paying them to flood their fields when migrating birds t

13

00:00:56,490 --> 00:01:02,090

Scientists used a database with more than 100 million bird sightings to predict where and when birds migrate.

14

00:01:02,110 --> 00:01:07,930

The whiter the area, the more likely the chance to spot birds.

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00:01:07,950 --> 00:01:10,750

An 11-year satellite record helped predict

16

00:01:10,770 --> 00:01:13,590

where water was located through the year.

17

00:01:17,060 --> 00:01:18,880

Both datasets are analyzed to produce targets for flooding,\h

18

00:01:18,900 --> 00:01:22,120

which\hare areas with little water\hbut\hmany birds.

19

00:01:26,010 --> 00:01:30,960

"Our program creates, for these certain weeks of the year, temporary pop-up wetland\hhabitat".