

## 619 Wilderness Wings

Jan/Feb

### ***River Journey – Pintails***

Pintails are slim and elegant birds. These beautiful ducks have muted distinctive coloring, slim necks, comparatively long bills and pointed tails. Pintails migrate early in the winter and are the most prolific duck of the West Coast.

Mar/Apr

### ***Northern Retreat – Wood Ducks***

The male drake, with its iridescent green, blue and purple feathers, separated by white-lined markings extending from the neck to the head, is more colorful than the female hen. Also known as Carolina Ducks, they prefer a habitat of swamps, forested wetlands and river banks.

May/Jun

### ***Scouting the Coast – Common Eiders***

The common eider is the largest duck in North America and is native to northern coasts. When migrating, the eiders travel side by side in long lines along the coastline. They normally fly very low, only a few feet above the water.

Jul/Aug

### ***Quail Country– Bobwhite Quail***

Bobwhite quail numbers have fallen 82 percent in four decades, putting the bird at the top of Audubon's list of Common Bird's in Decline. The average lifespan of the bobwhite is about 6 months and under ideal conditions, they can survive up to five years in the wild.

Sep/Oct

### ***Windy Point – Mallards***

Mallards, familiar to most and primarily located in the United States, fly in an easily recognized V-formation. As surface feeding ducks, mallards are primarily vegetarians. However, they will eat snails, tadpoles or fish eggs when plant life is scarce.

Nov/Dec

### ***Last of the Season – Canada Geese***

Whether it's a busy metropolitan area or a peaceful lake or marsh, Canada geese readily adapt to a wide range of environments. Canada geese form pairs during the winter or migrating season and stay together for more than a year, occasionally mating for life.