



Accessibility Conformance Report

WCAG Edition

(Based on VPAT[®] Version 2.4)

Birds of the World Accessibility Conformance Report

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Name of Product/Version: Birds of the World (<https://birdsoftheworld.org>)

Report Date: January 14, 2022

Product Description: A website containing comprehensive life histories for all bird species and families.

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Notes: The Birds of the World website contains more than 100,000 pages and is continually scanned by Siteimprove Enterprise. This report applies a strict definition of "Partially Supports" to include functionality that has a very small percentage of success criteria failures. There are instances of overwhelming conformance (e.g., minimum contrast, parsing) where the failure rate is less than 0.001 percent and are nevertheless designated Partially Supports. The Birds of the World website includes both open-access and subscription content – this report does not include the user log-in flow or the ecommerce user flow.

“Voluntary Product Accessibility Template” and “VPAT” are registered service marks of the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI).

Evaluation Methods Used: This website was evaluated in Chrome browser (version 96.0.4664.110) on Mac Monterey 12.0.1 using Siteimprove, Wave, aXe, ANDI, and other automated accessibility tools as well as with Siteimprove Enterprise. Manual and screen reader accessibility was evaluated using hands-on keyboard operation, VoiceOver in Safari (Version 15.1) on Mac Monterey.

Applicable Standards/Guidelines

This report covers the degree of conformance for the following accessibility standard/guidelines:

Standard/Guideline	Included In Report
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0	Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (No)
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1	Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (No)

Terms

The terms used in the Conformance Level information are defined as follows:

- **Supports:** The functionality of the product has at least one method that meets the criterion without known defects or meets with equivalent facilitation.
- **Partially Supports:** Some functionality of the product does not meet the criterion.
- **Does Not Support:** The majority of product functionality does not meet the criterion.
- **Not Applicable:** The criterion is not relevant to the product.
- **Not Evaluated:** The product has not been evaluated against the criterion. This can be used only in WCAG 2.0 Level AAA.

WCAG 2.x Report

Note: When reporting on conformance with the WCAG 2.x Success Criteria, they are scoped for full pages, complete processes, and accessibility-supported ways of using technology as documented in the [WCAG 2.0 Conformance Requirements](#).

Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A)	Partially Supports	Images have meaningful alternative (alt) text descriptions. Nonrelevant or decorative images have a null alt attribute or are inserted as a background image. Completion of the newsletter subscription form is dependent on use of visual Captcha alternative.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Does Not Support	For prerecorded audio-only and prerecorded video-only media, the following are true, except when the audio or video is a media alternative for text and is clearly labeled as such: (Level A) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prerecorded Audio-only: An alternative for time-based media is provided that presents equivalent information for prerecorded audio-only content.• Prerecorded Video-only: Either an alternative for time-based media or an audio track is provided that presents equivalent information for prerecorded video-only content. Audio recordings of bird vocalizations and waveform

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		<p>representations of bird vocalizations have no known practicable solution for alternative representation.</p> <p>Completion of the newsletter subscription form is dependent on use of audio Captcha alternative that conflicts with screen reader audio.</p>
<p>1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A)</p>	<p>Partially Supports</p>	<p>Captions are provided for all prerecorded audio content in synchronized media, except when the media is a media alternative for text and is clearly labeled as such.</p> <p>Some prerecorded videos lack captions.</p> <p>Some prerecorded videos lack text transcript.</p>
<p>1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A)</p>	<p>Partially Supports</p>	<p>An alternative for time-based media or audio description of the prerecorded video content is provided for synchronized media, except when the media is a media alternative for text and is clearly labeled as such.</p> <p>Some prerecorded videos lack audio description or media alternative.</p>
<p>1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A)</p>	<p>Partially Supports</p>	<p>Information, structure, and relationships conveyed through presentation can be programmatically determined or are available in text.</p> <p>Empty headings appear on 29 pages.</p> <p>Some iframes contain deprecated frameborder attribute.</p> <p>Radio buttons are not grouped with fieldset or identified with legend.</p>

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A)	Supports	When the sequence in which content is presented affects its meaning, a correct reading sequence can be programmatically determined.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A)	Supports	Instructions for user interface content on Birds of the World is provided in textual format. Instructions do not rely on audio, sound, shape, size, or visual location.
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A)	Supports	Birds of the World does not use color alone to signify the relative importance of a visual element. A textual representation is always used as the primary mechanism for conveying information.
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A)	Supports	No audio on a Birds of the World webpage plays automatically for more than 3 seconds.
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A)	Partially Supports	<p>Birds of the World supports standard keyboard navigation and input functions (pressing Tab or Shift-Tab to move focus; Arrow keys to move among radio buttons, list items, tree menus, table cells and sliders; Spacebar or Enter to execute; Escape to close dialogs).</p> <p>The media carousel modal that opens from the species pages contains a Next button that executes with Tab key rather than the expected Spacebar and Enter keys.</p> <p>The media carousel modal that opens from the species pages contains a Close button that is not in the tab sequence.</p>
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A)	Supports	<p>Keyboard navigation was never found to be trapped in a subset of content.</p> <p>Keyboard focus was never found to be trapped or</p>

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		locked at any page element.
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 only)	Supports	When a shortcut is implemented using alphanumeric and/or special characters, that shortcut is only active when the intended component has focus.
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A)	Supports	<p>For each time limit that is set by the content, at least one of the following is true:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn off: The user is allowed to turn off the time limit before encountering it; or • Adjust: The user is allowed to adjust the time limit before encountering it over a wide range that is at least ten times the length of the default setting; or • Extend: The user is warned before time expires and given at least 20 seconds to extend the time limit with a simple action (for example, "press the space bar"), and the user is allowed to extend the time limit at least ten times; or • Real-time Exception: The time limit is a required part of a real-time event (for example, an auction), and no alternative to the time limit is possible; or • Essential Exception: The time limit is essential and extending it would invalidate the activity; or • 20 Hour Exception: The time limit is longer than 20 hours. <p>Neither timeout nor forcible session termination were encountered.</p>

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A)	Supports	Any moving, blinking, or scrolling information that (1) starts automatically, (2) lasts more than five seconds, and (3) is presented in parallel with other content, contains a user-controlled mechanism to pause, stop, or hide it unless the movement, blinking, or scrolling is part of an activity where it is essential.
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A)	Supports	Web pages do not contain anything that flashes more than three times in any one second period, or the flash is below the general flash and red flash thresholds. Flashes or flashing objects were not encountered.
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A)	Partially Supports	A mechanism is available to bypass blocks of content that are repeated on multiple web pages. Skip links are present and function as expected in most cases. In some few instances, VoiceOver does not announce a description of the destination upon landing.
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A)	Partially Supports	Each page contains a title that conveys the topic and/or purpose of that page. The newsletter subscription form lacks informative title for each of the multi-step pages.
2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A)	Partially Supports	User interface focusable elements and controls are navigated sequentially with Tab key. The sequence follows the visual order of presentation. Focus order does not follow visual order of presentation in a very few instances.
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A)	Partially Supports	Link text is generally an accurate description of the link

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		<p>destination.</p> <p>Some exceptions were found:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The alternative text for the Birds of the World logo image is identical to the link text; • Link text lacks programmatic association with related heading; • Link text does not provide a meaningful description of destination; • In-line reference numbers are not identified as references or citations; • Occasionally, a full URL will appear as link text.
<p>2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1 only)</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>All functionality that uses multipoint or path-based gestures for operation can be operated with a single pointer without a path-based gesture, unless a multipoint or path-based gesture is essential.</p>
<p>2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 only)</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>For functionality that can be operated using a single pointer, at least one of the following is true:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Down-Event: The down-event of the pointer is not used to execute any part of the function; • Abort or Undo: Completion of the function is on the up-event, and a mechanism is available to abort the function before completion or to undo the function after completion; • Up Reversal: The up-event reverses any outcome of the preceding down-event;

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential: Completing the function on the down-event is essential.
2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1 only)	Supports	For user interface components with labels that include text or images of text, the name contains the text that is presented visually.
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1 only)	Supports	No functionality that can be operated by device motion or user motion was experienced.
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A)	Partially Supports	<p>The default language of the page is set with the HTML lang attribute.</p> <p>The newsletter subscription form lacks the lang attribute on each of the multi-step pages.</p>
3.2.1 On Focus (Level A)	Supports	No change of context was experienced when a component received focus.
3.2.2 On Input (Level A)	Partially Supports	Generally, a change in the setting of a core component or feature does not initiate a change of context.
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A)	Partially Supports	<p>If an input error is automatically detected, the item that is in error is identified and the error is described to the user in text.</p> <p>The newsletter subscription form detects invalid email input and displays a text error message that isn't announced by VoiceOver.</p> <p>Error message text is not removed upon user correction of error.</p>
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A)	Partially Supports	Labels or instructions are provided when content

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		<p>requires user input.</p> <p>Radio button group label is not associated with inputs.</p> <p>Consent text is not associated with Submit button.</p> <p>Multi-step form lacks instruction for the multi-step sequence.</p> <p>Keyboard shortcut instructions are not in close proximity to each control.</p>
<p>4.1.1 Parsing (Level A)</p>	<p>Partially Supports</p>	<p>In content implemented using markup languages, elements have complete start and end tags, elements are nested according to their specifications, elements do not contain duplicate attributes, and any IDs are unique, except where the specifications allow these features.</p> <p>There are 3063 occurrences of element IDs that are not unique (0.0009 percent of the total occurrences of element IDs).</p>
<p>4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A)</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>For all user interface components (including but not limited to: form elements, links and components generated by scripts), the name and role can be programmatically determined; states, properties, and values that can be set by the user can be programmatically set; and notification of changes to these items is available to user agents, including assistive technologies.</p> <p>The Web Accessibility Initiative – Accessible Rich Internet Applications (WAI-ARIA) roles and states are used appropriately and where expected for communication with assistive technology.</p>

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA)	N/A	Captions are provided for all live audio content in synchronized media. Birds of the World does not include live audio or video content.
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA)	Does Not Support	Audio description is provided for all prerecorded video content in synchronized media. Audio recordings of bird vocalizations lack adequate audio description.
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	Content does not restrict its view and operation to a single display orientation, such as portrait or landscape, unless a specific display orientation is essential.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	The purpose of each input field collecting information about the user can be programmatically determined when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The input field serves a purpose identified in the Input Purposes for User Interface Components section; and • The content is implemented using technologies with support for identifying the expected meaning for form input data.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA)	Partially Supports	The visual presentation of text and images of text has a

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		<p>contrast ratio of at least 4.5:1, except for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large Text: large-scale text and images of large-scale text have a contrast ratio of at least 3:1; • Incidental: Text or images of text that are part of an inactive user interface component, that are pure decoration, that are not visible to anyone, or that are part of a picture that contains significant other visual content, have no contrast requirement. • Logotypes: Text that is part of a logo or brand name has no minimum contrast requirement. <p>There are 937 (0.0007%) occurrences of text that lacks sufficient contrast with background.</p>
1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA)	Supports	<p>Except for captions and images of text, text can be resized without assistive technology up to 200 percent without loss of content or functionality.</p>
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA)	Partially Supports	<p>Image of text is used in youtube video placeholder when the same presentation could be made with HTML/CSS.</p>
1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	<p>Content can be presented without loss of information or functionality, and without requiring scrolling in two dimensions for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vertical scrolling content at a width equivalent to 320 CSS pixels; • Horizontal scrolling content at a height equivalent to 256 CSS pixels;

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		<p>Except for parts of the content (such as range distribution maps) which require two-dimensional layout for usage or meaning.</p>
<p>1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1 only)</p>	<p>Partially Supports</p>	<p>The visual presentation of the following have a contrast ratio of at least 3:1 against adjacent color(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User Interface Components: Visual information required to identify user interface components and states, except for inactive components or where the appearance of the component is determined by the user agent and not modified by the author; • Graphical Objects: Parts of graphics required to understand the content, except when a particular presentation of graphics is essential to the information being conveyed. <p>Newsletter subscription form Subscribe button focus indicator lacks 3:1 against adjacent button color.</p>
<p>1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1 only)</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>In content implemented using markup languages that support the following text style properties, no loss of content or functionality occurs by setting all the following and by changing no other style property:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Line height (line spacing) to at least 1.5 times the font size; • Spacing following paragraphs to at least 2 times the font size; • Letter spacing (tracking) to at least 0.12 times the font size; • Word spacing to at least 0.16 times the font

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		<p>size.</p> <p>Exception (not found): Human languages and scripts that do not make use of one or more of these text style properties in written text can conform using only the properties that exist for that combination of language and script.</p>
<p>1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1 only)</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>Where receiving and then removing pointer hover or keyboard focus triggers additional content to become visible and then hidden, the following are true:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dismissible: A mechanism is available to dismiss the additional content without moving pointer hover or keyboard focus, unless the additional content communicates an input error or does not obscure or replace other content; • Hoverable: If pointer hover can trigger the additional content, then the pointer can be moved over the additional content without the additional content disappearing; • Persistent: The additional content remains visible until the hover or focus trigger is removed, the user dismisses it, or its information is no longer valid. <p>Exception (not found): The visual presentation of the additional content is controlled by the user agent and is not modified by the author.</p>
<p>2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA)</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>More than one way is available to locate a Web page within a set of Web pages except where the Web Page</p>

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		is the result of, or a step in, a process.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA)	Supports	Headings and labels describe topic or purpose.
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA)	Partially Supports	Any keyboard operable user interface has a mode of operation where the keyboard focus indicator is visible. Skip to content link lacks visible focus indicator. Media player slider control lacks visible focus indicator. Some focusable elements lack visible focus indicator within modals.
3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA)	Partially Supports	Some foreign language reference citations lack the lang attribute.
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA)	Supports	Consistent and repeatable navigation mechanisms are provided.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA)	Supports	Component and user interface controls for the same functionality are identified consistently across all Birds of the World webpages.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA)	Partially Supports	If an input error is automatically detected and suggestions for correction are known, then the suggestions are provided to the user, unless it would jeopardize the security or purpose of the content. Suggestions are provided but are not announced by VoiceOver.
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA)	N/A	No forms that might cause legal commitments, financial transactions, or data submissions were

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		encountered.
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	In content implemented using markup languages, status messages can be programmatically determined through role or properties such that they can be presented to the user by assistive technologies without receiving focus.

Table 3: Success Criteria, Level AAA

Notes: It is not recommended that Level AAA conformance be required as a general policy for entire sites because it is not possible to satisfy all Level AAA Success Criteria for some content. Birds of the World does not currently apply Level AAA to its website.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.6 Sign Language (Prerecorded) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
1.2.7 Extended Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
1.2.8 Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
1.2.9 Audio-only (Live) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
1.3.6 Identify Purpose (Level AAA 2.1 only)	Not evaluated	
1.4.6 Contrast (Enhanced) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
1.4.7 Low or No Background Audio (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
1.4.8 Visual Presentation (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.9 Images of Text (No Exception) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.1.3 Keyboard (No Exception) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.2.3 No Timing (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.2.4 Interruptions (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.2.5 Re-authenticating (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.2.6 Timeouts (Level AAA 2.1 only)	Not evaluated	
2.3.2 Three Flashes (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.3.3 Animation from Interactions (Level AAA 2.1 only)	Not evaluated	
2.4.8 Location (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.4.9 Link Purpose (Link Only) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.4.10 Section Headings (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.5.5 Target Size (Level AAA 2.1 only)	Not evaluated	
2.5.6 Concurrent Input Mechanisms (Level AAA 2.1 only)	Not evaluated	
3.1.3 Unusual Words (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
3.1.4 Abbreviations (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
3.1.5 Reading Level (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
3.1.6 Pronunciation (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
3.2.5 Change on Request (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
3.3.5 Help (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.3.6 Error Prevention (All) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	

Legal Disclaimer: Birds of the World

Accessibility of all types is paramount to Cornell University and, as an institution, it is committed to diversity and inclusiveness with the goal of providing to all accessible, usable, and welcoming environments and opportunities.

In light of these standards and goals, Cornell University strives to comply with the latest version of the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), which it recognizes as the standard for creating web accessibility for individuals with disabilities. Nonetheless, the information Cornell University provides in this document relating to web accessibility is to the best of its knowledge only, and is offered only as of the date of this document. Nothing herein shall constitute a representation, warranty or covenant from Cornell University, nor shall this document impose any legally binding obligations upon Cornell University beyond those required by all applicable laws, rules and regulations.