Robin Robinson People's Choice Award

For creating a flourishing online educational community of people who share photos and information about all aspects of Maine's wild birds, including threats to their habitats and opportunities to make a difference

For the last thirteen years, the Natural Resources Council of Maine has been inviting people from across Maine to nominate a person or group in their community working to make a difference for Maine's environment. Every year, we get dozens of submission, and after the difficult task of narrowing the list to a handful of finalists, the winner of our People's Choice Award is decided by popular vote. This year's winner, Robin Robinson, was nominated for her efforts creating and managing a Facebook group, MaineBirds, that brings together people from all walks of life who have this in common: they care about Maine's wild birds. Here, bird enthusiasts share photos, birding and identification tips, rare bird reports, and rehabilitation contacts for injured birds. They can also post about protection of habitats important for birds, and about legislative bills that pose a threat to birds at the local, state, and federal levels, on issues ranging from climate change to singleuse plastic bags. Robin always keeps the MaineBirds atmosphere friendly and welcoming. No wonder the page has quickly grown to more than 18,000 members! That also helps explain why she received not one but two nominations for our People's Choice Award. MaineBirds has become an extraordinary resource for bird enthusiasts of all walks of life, and we are pleased to be able to present her with our 2018 People's Choice Award.

