

Ethical Nature Photography Standards



If a bird stops its normal behavior as a result of a photographer's activity, the photographer is intruding and should slowly move away.

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The Tampa Audubon Society (TAS) and the TAS Camera Club promote Ethical Nature Photography Standards. Every nature photographer must exercise good individual judgement. All who practice nature photography in Hillsborough County should promote good stewardship of the resource.

Environmental: Knowledge of Subject and Place

- Learn patterns of bird behavior. Do not interfere with animal behavior or life cycles.
- Cause no distress to birds, other wildlife or their habitat.
- If a bird or other animal shows stress or reacts, back away.
- Stay on trails to lessen impacts.
- Do not disturb birds that are nesting or feeding young.

Social: Knowledge of Rules and Laws

- Follow rules and laws related to the location.
- Treat the birds, wildlife, plants, and places as if you were their guest.
- Respect state and federal laws protecting birds and other wildlife.

Individual: Expertise and Responsibilities

- Treat others courteously.
- Ask before joining other nature photographers already taking pictures.
- Report inappropriate behavior to the proper authorities.
- Be a good role model, as a nature photographer and a citizen.
- Educate and enhance others understanding by your actions.