



# Upland Sandpiper Decoy Carving

Created and Donated by William H. Browne, III



*1 hand-carved  
UPLAND SANDPIPER decoy*

*Value \$750*

Carving wildfowl in wood is Bill's profession and passion. Bill's attraction to wildlife subjects is a natural result of his own outdoor pursuits. The desire to convey and share those experiences steer his work.

This year's donation is still being finalized, and it will be gunning-style, competition shorebird carving of an Upland Sandpiper – a grassland priority bird species for Audubon Great Plains and across the grasslands of the upper plains.

As a master woodcarver, Bill has created more than 500 decoys, winning honors including more than a dozen best-of-shows and a world championship for mallards in 2001. When he's not carving and selling decoys and art, he is judging competitions. Lately he has moved away from the more restrictive competition decoy realism and toward the "birds in art" as a form by showing the natural raw material with just enough detail for easy species identification.

Bill's carvings are in many collections worldwide. They have been shown at Kearney's Museum of Nebraska Art, and have won many national and international competitions.

