

Partners in Flight: Launching our next 30 years of partnership bird conservation

US NABCI Committee
Washington DC
August 2019



THE STATE OF THE BIRDS 2019

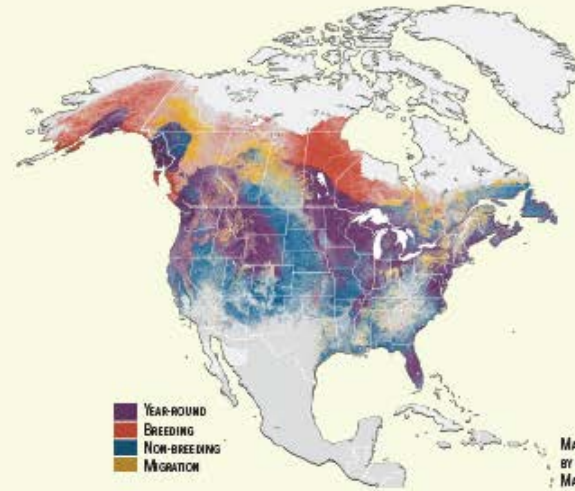
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICA'S BIRDS IN CRISIS



BUT CONSERVATION WORKS!

RECOVERY IS
POSSIBLE
WHEN WE
INVEST IN BIRDS



MAP SHOWS CURRENT BALD EAGLE ABUNDANCE BY SEASON BASED ON EBIRD DATA. PHOTO BY TOM MAST/MACULAY LIBRARY.

Our national bird, an icon of wildlife recovery: In 1970 there were just a

Net Population Change: *Loss of Common Species*

- 50% of loss is made up of 10 abundant species

Horned Lark



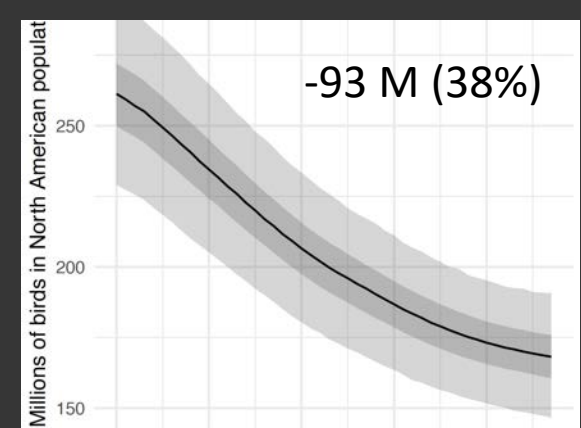
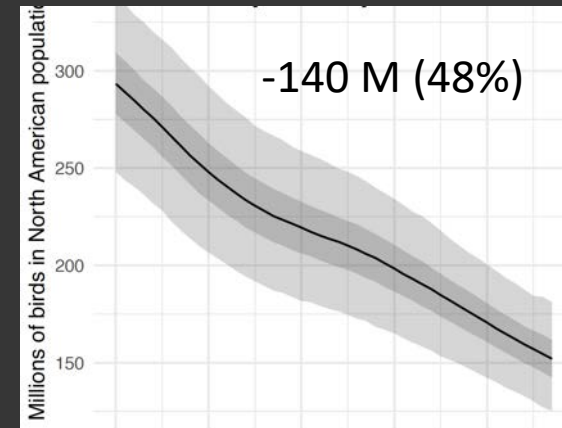
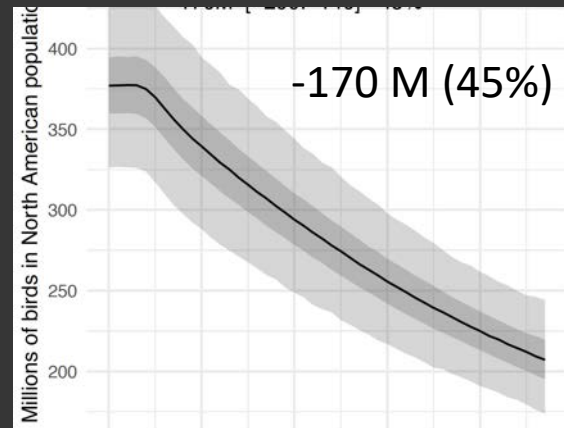
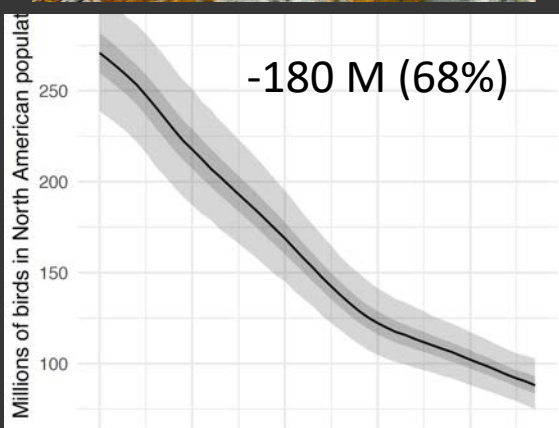
Dark-eyed Junco



Savannah Sparrow



Red-winged Blackbird



**Partners in Flight
30th Anniversary
US NABCI Committee discussion - 8 August 2019**



Launching our next 30 years of partnership bird conservation

- Widespread declines in populations of long distance migrant birds prompted science and conservation leaders to gather in Atlanta in late 1990.
- Conservation leaders behind the North American Waterfowl Plan and the North American Wetlands Conservation Act envisioned a replication of that model for nongame birds, especially those of upland habitats.
- Partners in Flight, was born with the vision to “keep common birds common” and keep vulnerable species off endangered species status.
- Today, Partners in Flight is a broad network that supports unique collaboration opportunities among individuals and organizations for bird conservation. These opportunities for collaboration facilitated by Partners in Flight serve as a catalyst for innovative ideas that turn to action.

Proposed activities to invigorate the PIF network during the 30th anniversary



Table at least 8 major conferences and workshops in 2020 across the hemisphere. Develop products and handouts highlighting partner successes.

PIF 30th anniversary event in Wash DC in association with Joint Venture Fly-In.

Citizen science engagement through creative uses of eBird and AKN (e.g. Avicaching, Bio-blitzes, iNaturalist, Land Trust stewardship, etc.)

Promotion of World Migratory Bird Day – “Birds Connect People” to make bird conservation relevant.

Integration of 2016 PIF plan with State, SWAPs , Flyway councils and state outreach programs.

Fill the gaps in Joint Ventures implementation plans to deliver upland habitat. Bring in key state, federal, and industrial partners that deliver upland habitat.

Integrate ‘songbirds as indicators’ with game and singles species conservation efforts (e.g. quail, sage grouse, curlew, waterfowl, sand-hill crane, thrasher, Kirtland, Cerulean, Gold-winged Warbler etc.)

Current examples of PIF inspired projects that highlight collaborative conservation:

Desert Thrasher Working Group. More info Edwin Juarez (ejvarez@azgfd.gov) or Corrie Borgman, (corrie_borgman@fws.gov)



Informing Science-based Evaluation and Expansion of Protected Areas (Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument example. More info: John Alexander (jda@klamathbird.org)

Private forestry engagement through integration of PIF priorities into industry stewardship training. More info: Henning Stebbins (henning.stabins@weyerhaeuser.com)

IMBCR and expansion into entire shrub-steppe biome BCR. More info: Jennifer Timmer (jennifer.timmer@birdconservancy.org)

AKN 2.0 (training video), new histogram NMBA compliance tool and updated ACAD. More info: Meghan Sadlowski (meghan_sadlowski@fws.gov) or John Alexander (jda@klamathbird.org)

Bobwhite quail initiative. More info Catherine Rideout (catherine_rideout@fws.gov)

Using cost-shared Partner Biologists programs to implement and evaluate Farm Bill Conservation Practices. More info: Geoff Geupel (ggeupel@pointblue.org)

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act includes Partners in Flight objectives to be addressed with implementation and delivery of the Act. Bob Ford (Robert_P_Ford@fws.gov)