



OHIO BIRD CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

Conservation Planning and Research Committee Meeting Minutes March 22, 2018 Location – Conference Call

Call-in Information

Call in number: [1-302-202-1106](tel:1-302-202-1106)

Code: 938731

Objective

To assemble the committee to discuss new directions for conservation planning and research for OBCI in relation to priority projects of Lights Out Ohio and Forest Management. We also briefly discuss the Ohio All-Bird Conservation Plan. In addition, we will provide updates on forest management guides, cerulean warbler geolocator research, and an upcoming meeting with Upper Mississippi River Great Lakes Joint Venture in early April.

Attendees – Present – Matt Shumar (OBCI), Laura Kearns (ODNR –Div. of Wildlife), Steve Matthews (OSU/USFS), Bob Gates (OSU), Kelly Williams (OU), Cotton Randall (ODNR-Div of Forestry), Lee Crocker (NWTF), Mark Shieldcastle (BSBO), August Froehlich (TNC), Erin Cashion (Ohio History Connection), Marne Titchnell (OSU-Extension), Mike Kravitz (Ohio EPA)

Minutes

General Updates on CPRC Projects: Forest Management

Small Patch Size Team

John Mueller (Div of Forestry)
Erin Cashion (Ohio History Connection)
Marne Titchenell (OSU Extension)
Steve Matthews (OSU)
Nick Schell (USDA-NRCS)
Mark Shieldcastle (Black Swamp Bird Observatory)
Matt Shumar (OBCI Coordinator)
Laura Kearns (CPRC Chair, Div. of Wildlife)
Past - Jennifer Thieme (TNC)
Past – Chris Tonra (OSU)
Past – Mark Debrock (USDA-NRCS)

Past – Amanda Duren (Past OBCI Coordinator)

Small Patch Revised Timeline - end of April or mid-summer for draft.

Cerulean Warbler Geolocator Research – 21 birds fitted with geolocators in spring 2017, 20 with color-marked bands by Univ. of Tennessee; they will be returning week of May 21st for 2-3 weeks to recapture birds with geolocators. Laura will be heading down week of May 14 – probably starting on the 15th – to try and resight birds before the crew arrives. Looking for volunteers to help – Matt S., Kelly W., and possibly Erin C. expressed interest in helping.

Stark Co. Forest Management Workshop – some evening in September. Laura K, Matt S, Marne T, and Ryan from forestry will help to organize.

Day in the Woods program on Breeding Birds on June 8 at the Vinton Exp Forest – Steve M., Kelly W., Laura K. will be involved. Let us know if anyone else wants to help out.

General Updates on CPRC Projects: Lights Out

Lights Out – started in 2013 – conducted a small monitoring study in Columbus (Greg Smith editing, following review from the Wilson Journal of Ornithology), recent expansion in Cleveland, Akron/Canton/Cincinnati/Toledo in 2018. Cleveland monitoring in 2017 – canvassing mornings – 2100 birds found in the downtown – 700 were rehabilitated, others went into scientific collection at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. This high number of birds caused a resource strain on partners, but there is a large potential for research. OBCI has helped to find funding for 2 interns at CMNH for processing birds in collection (\$4500 each through Columbus Audubon), but we are looking for more funding. In 2018 – will expand monitoring in Akron/Canton/Cincinnati/Cleveland/OSU – there is a lot of potential for all this data. Lights Out Ohio is also collaborating with folks from Bird Safe Pittsburgh – looking at survivorship of birds from collisions by tagging birds with nanotags, and expanding the MOTUS network in the Cleveland area.

Data management is being managed thus far by OBCI/Lake Erie Nature Science/CMNH, and is being entered through Google Drive. Laura Gooch (birder in Cleveland Area, former MIT engineer) is a volunteer helping to develop a database with error checking and autofill capabilities. We are using same data template for other cities which are separated by city for now. We are also tracking history of birds going through rehabilitation. We will continue to refine the data collection process, but need volunteers for data entry. Steve M. inquired regarding the plan for long-term data processing?. Matt S described that there was a delayed processing of the dead birds (backlog); this is still in pilot stage, and it will take dedicated resources to process specimens and collect information

How can the OBCI CPRC committee do to help: 1) indicate to Matt/Laura what other types of data people are interested in 2) think about how to expand the MOTUS network in coordination with Lights Out – include Jon Cepek in that conversation (he is heading up the Cleveland array at the moment), 3) brainstorm ideas for funding – support for processing specimens, 4) communicate about any possible involvement in MOTUS-related research and potential funding opportunities;

Steve M. is glad to see how this project is developing. Matt S. indicated that this project is good but insane! Great to see partnerships coming together and integrating at the community-level. ; Laura K. inquired regarding about looking ahead to publications and who would be involved with those. OBCI will need to be involved – depends on questions we are asking, where data be used. If in the Cleveland area, likely that Andy Jones will head up such work. In relationship to the survivorship study using MOTUS – Luke DeGroot/Matt Webb/Bird Safe Pittsburgh/Powdermill, will head up, will likely include OBCI on anything.

Progress on MOTUS tower expansion in other cities: Akron/AZA – Shane Good from Akron is coordinating through Akron Zoo; Columbus Zoo interested in expanding to other sites besides the Zoo and the Wilds. Maybe we need to move towards having a ring of MOTUS around cities?? Pennsylvania has a continual line of MOTUS.... We need to continue to work towards collaborative efforts and funding through metroparks, zoos, etc.....

All Bird Conservation Plan

Upcoming JV Science Meeting: TWEL (funding from Division) is hosting Upper Mississippi River Great Lakes Joint Venture (UMRGLJV) workshop April 5th and April 6th. Talk about science office of JV and delivery of habitat conservation and implementation into bird conservation strategies. The JV is revising waterfowl and waterbird strategies, and working on landbird and shorebird strategies. The Division is revising its tactical plan – using OBCI plan and JV plans, so this meeting is good timing. April 5th - Thursday afternoon 1-430 pm at the 4H center on OSU's campus – this session will be more general, and discuss more of the technical science and step through the development of bird conservation strategies. The plans have more incorporation of human dimensions aspects, other ecosystem goods and services than the previous plans. Mohammed Al-Saffar from the JV will share results from the GIS and point out best areas for conservation of species in the Waterbird and Waterfowl plans. The Thursday meeting can accommodate 60 people. On Friday April 6th at Olentangy, space is limited to 25 people. This meeting will be a more focused discussion of planning models and GIS products, how can that be applied and used in planning, and how can we use joint venture plans in our planning. This meeting is more targeted to anyone doing on the ground conservation. Send Bob names and email addresses of anyone interested in attending:

Gates.77@osu.edu.

Steve M. was curious about how the JV plans for bird conservation intersect with TNC priority spots.

All-bird Conservation Plan – Laura noted a delay – we were supposed to starting thinking about this in September of 2017, but other things got in the way. But since the plan is so stepped down from the JV plans, it makes sense to wait until some of the revised JV plans are out. Work likely to happen in next year or so. Attendance at the JV workshop makes sense to start thinking about how to revise. Looking for subcommittee members to take plan revisions under their wings. Please contact Laura/Matt if you are interested in participating on this subcommittee.