

# 2023 Ohio Avian Research Conference



**Saturday, October 14, 2023**

Grange Insurance Audubon Center, Columbus, Ohio

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8:00 - 9:00 Registration, poster-set up, exhibitors



9:00 - 9:15 Welcome and Announcements

9:15 - 10:15 Keynote presentation

**Dr. Nathan W. Cooper**, Research Ecologist  
Migratory Bird Center Smithsonian's National Zoo & Conservation Biology Institute

Cooper will present his research on North America's rarest songbird, the Kirtland's Warbler. Over the past few decades, Kirtland's Warblers have undergone a remarkable recovery, from just 167 males in the world in 1987 to more than 2,200 males today. In addition to having a compelling conservation story, its small population size and restricted breeding and winter ranges provide a truly unique opportunity to learn more about the fascinating and interconnected annual cycles of songbirds. Cooper will take us on a journey through the annual cycle of the Kirtland's Warbler and share what we have learned from this rare species.

Nathan is a behavioral ecologist and conservation biologist. He studies how migratory birds interact with each other and their environments throughout the annual cycle. He is primarily focused on the ecology and conservation of the Kirtland's Warbler and is currently involved in several science- and conservation-based projects with this recently delisted species. Cooper grew up in Michigan and earned a B.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife from Michigan State University, a M.S. in Biology from Portland State University, and a Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Tulane University. He first joined the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center as a Ph.D. student in 2008, and then was awarded Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowships there, before being promoted to Research Ecologist in 2020.

*\*\*15 minute break\*\**

10:30 - 12:00      Presentation Session 1

**Kelly Williams, Ohio University**  
Ohio All-Bird Conservation Plan

**Ivy Ciaburri, The Ohio State University**  
Assessing effects of breeding-ground environmental conditions on American Redstart feather quality

**Jacob Morgan, Ohio University**  
Overwinter habitat use, survival, and movement ecology of Slate-colored Juncos, *Junco hyemalis*

**Mark Shieldcastle, Black Swamp Bird Observatory**  
The Howard Marsh Metropark restoration, wildlife response above and beyond expectations

12:00 - 1:15      Lunch/Poster Session

**Alexis Doerger, The Ohio State University**  
Understanding the factors behind Cerulean Warbler abundance in an Appalachian hardwood forest

**Jess Dong, The Ohio State University**  
What affected the Ohio bird community diversities from the 1980s to 2000s?

**Gabriella A. Lindsey, Ohio University**  
Movement Ecology of Henslow's Sparrows (*Centronyx henslowii*) in Ohio

**Omar Morosse, Kenyon College**  
Assortative mating in the North American Barn Swallow

**Rebecca Ralston, The Ohio State University**  
Trends in Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) Spring Arrival Timing

**Grany Ravary, The Ohio State University**  
A Multiscale Landscape View on Ring-necked Pheasant Habitat Connectivity

**Mike Watson, The Holden Arboretum**  
Are Northeast Ohio's breeding season Dark-eyed Juncos part of a non-migratory, isolated population?

1:15 - 2:30      Presentation Session 2

**Zoe Korpi, The Ohio State University**  
Lake-crossing behavior of migratory songbirds: Assessing potential collision risk with offshore wind

**Anna Rose, The Ohio State University**  
Habitat selection in overwintering White-throated Sparrow flocks in an Ohio wetland ecosystem.

**Iris Levin, Kenyon College**  
Investigating social networks of barn swallows using proximity loggers

**\*\*15 minute break\*\***

2:45 - 3:45      Career Panel

3:45              Closing Remarks