

Partners In Flight – 30th anniversary Long Term Vision, Short Term Results



Bob Ford, US Partners in Flight coordinator, USFWS
Becky Stewart, Canadian Partners in Flight Coordinator, CWS
Nat Seavy, US Co-Chair PIF SC, Natl Audubon
Natalie Savoie, Canadian Co-Chair, PIF SC, CWS

PIF Executive Committee:

Sara Schweitzer, North Carolina WRC
Catherine Rideout, EGCP JV coordinator, USFWS
Geoff Geupel, Point Blue Conservation Science
John Alexander, Klamath Bird Observatory

Target

Identify how the steering committee can ensure that Partners in Flight continues as a driving force in bird conservation.



How we are structured – typically “flat” and from the bottom up, all groups are self-directed

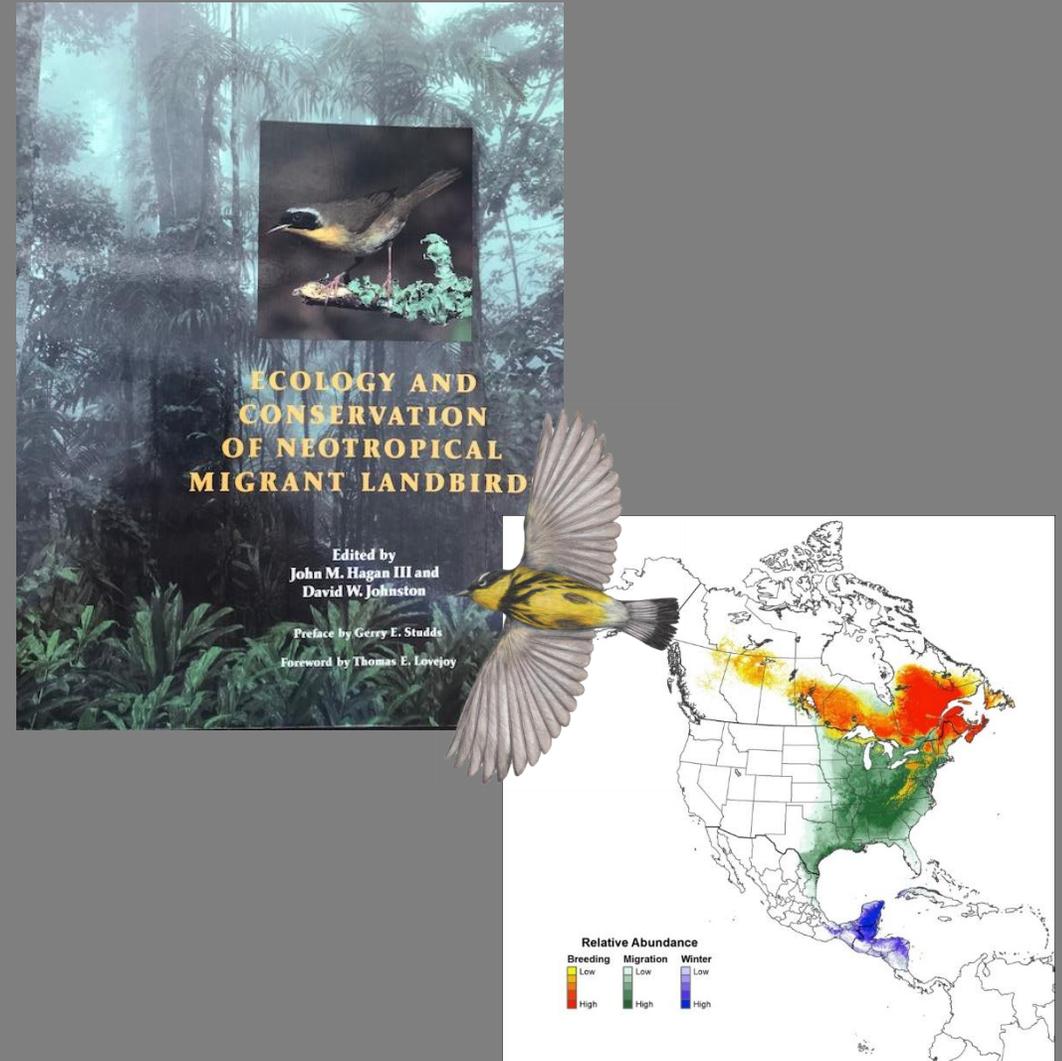
- PIF Steering Committee (Executive Committee)
- Western Working Group
- Eastern Working Group
- Boreal Working Group
- PIF Science
- PIF Industry
- Agency employed PIF Coordinators- US and Canada
- PIF liaisons in other countries
- PIF representation with others:
 - US NABCI Committee
 - Joint Ventures, FWS and other agencies, Trinational Committee, more



Step 1: Long Term Visioning process

Over the last year, the steering committee formed three working groups

- Retrospective (Carol Beidleman)
- DEIJ (John Alexander)
- Horizon scanning (Nat Seavy)





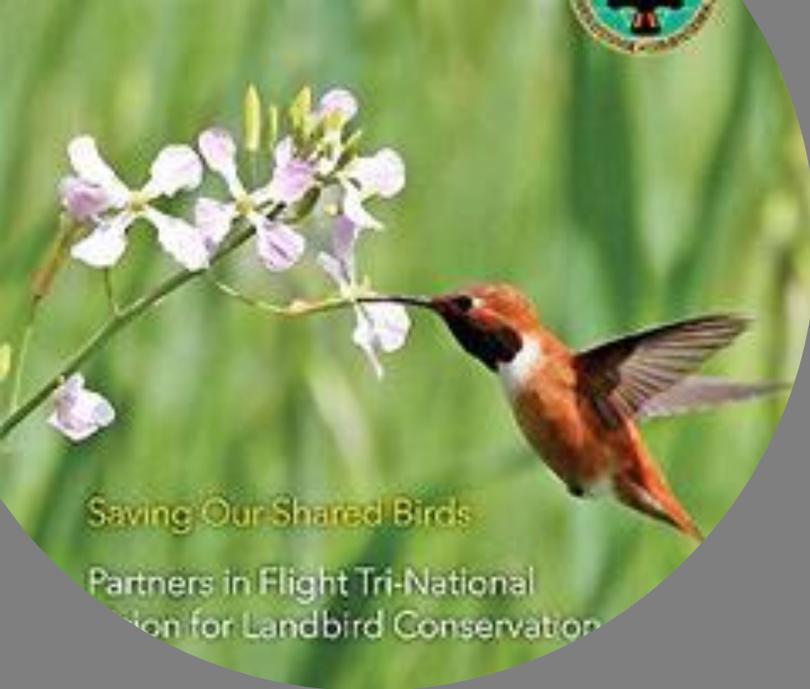
The PIF Retrospective Team: *Looking to the Past to inform the Future*

A review of PIF's (first) 30 years:

- What were PIF's successes?
- What were PIF's challenges?

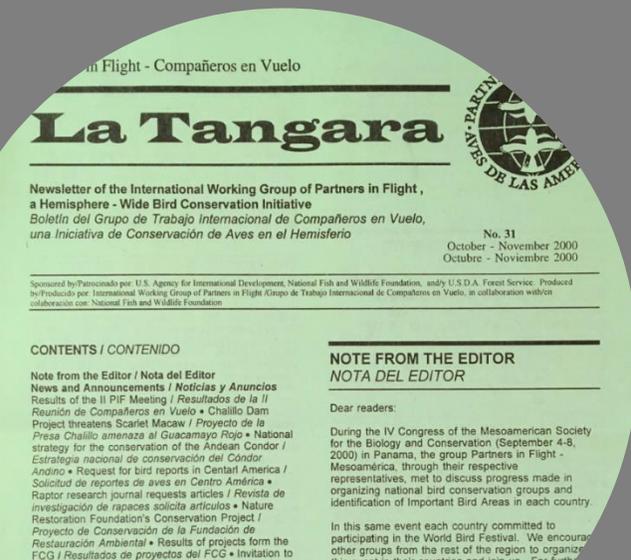
Reflections and summary by:

- **Carol Beidleman**
- Carol Beardmore
- Geoff Geupel
- John Alexander



PIF Successes Over Past 30 Years

- Products and Documents: Providing Direction and Technical Support
- Organizational: Providing Leadership and Support
- Influence/Integration
- Networking/Esprit de Corps



PIF's Challenges Over Past 30 Years

BIODIVERSITY LOSS

Decline of the North American avifauna



Kenneth V. Rosenberg^{1,2*}, Adriaan M. Dokter¹, Peter J. Blancher³, John R. Sauer⁴, Adam C. Smith⁵, Paul A. Smith³, Jessica C. Stanton⁶, Arvind Paniabi⁷, Laura Helft¹, Michael Barr², Peter D. Marra^{8†}

Funding Gaps and Needs

- Databases, awards, travel support, translation, fee structures, line items

Focus and Coverage

- Relevancy, different perspectives, international

Impact

- Haven't rolled up accomplishments from population perspective; loss of 3 billion birds

trajectories and size estimates indicates a net loss approaching 3 billion birds, or 29% of 1970 abundance. A continent-wide weather radar network also reveals a similarly steep decline in biomass passage of migrating birds over a recent 10-year period. This loss of bird abundance signals an urgent need to address threats to avert future avifaunal collapse and associated loss of ecosystem integrity, function, and services.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity – conservation success depends on the success of diverse human communities finding value in birds and ecosystems

1. In reach

- High level of...
- Ge...

2. Diversity

- Language
- Migration
- An...

3. Pull

- Dis...
- O...



US NABCI DEIJ Community of Practice

Horizon Scanning: The next 30 years...

Private landowners and industry (especially forestry)

- Transitions in land ownership
- Changing business conditions (labor, prices, globalization)

Major conservation efforts (especially international)

- Closely-tied to human well-being
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will be key
- Local capacity will be a major driver

Governments and agencies

- Closely-tied to human well-being
- People perceive emphasis as regulatory, but can shift to innovation and incentives for creative solutions

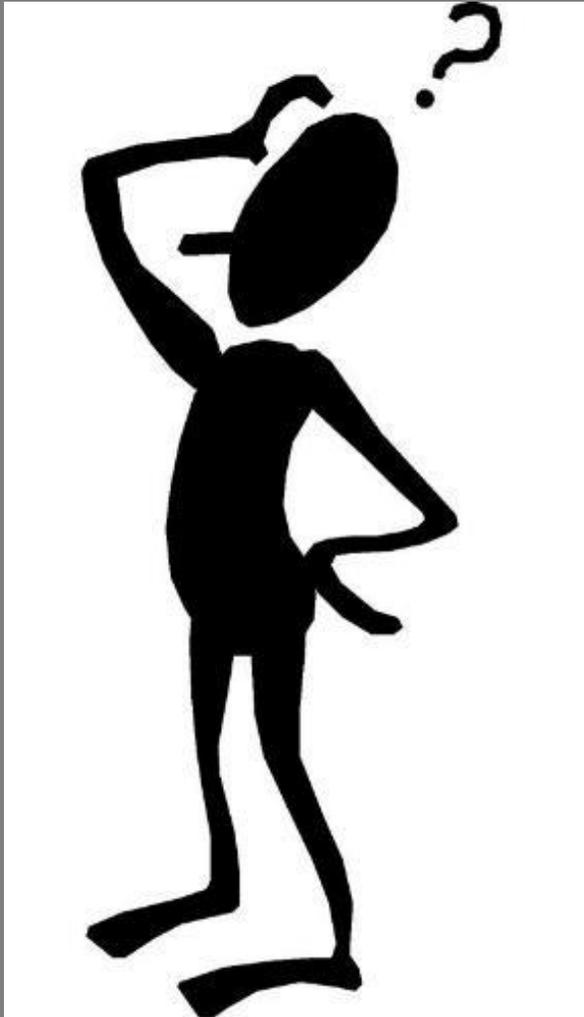


What will be the new normal?

Pandemic allowed us to quantify wildlife impacts of the “anthropause”

**People connected with their local nature in new ways
People are reconsidering how and where they live and work**

Step 2: Focus sessions to develop short term (1-2 years) desired results



- Two sessions of three hours each: 31 Jan and 3 Feb 2022
- The Steering Committee plus invited guests - up to 50 people attended

Breakout group themes – the Game Changers

nabci

Participants randomly assigned to one of 5 groups:

- Unprecedented coalitions to address the bird crisis (Becky Stewart)
- New science and technologies to identify limiting factors (Brandt Ryder)
- Road maps (investment strategies) for population recovery (John Alexander)
- Bold, new policy agenda (Geoff Geupel & Catherine Rideout)
- Unified messaging to bring back 3 billion birds (Bill DeLuca)



Outcome:

not so much the “WHAT”, but the “HOW”

- **Human well-being** targets are fully integrated
- Partners in Flight is operating as a **multi-national** initiative
- Partners in Flight prioritizes engagement **with Indigenous communities** in all countries
- **Human dimensions as co-production** is integrated into Partners in Flight science priorities
- Partners in Flight supports **policy development with science and information** for bird conservation
- Partners in Flight **builds capacity** to make bird conservation more efficient and effective, including **technical as well as institutional capacity** in the areas of leadership and organizational culture, governance and participation.

10 year context

PIF Strat Plan Version 1.2 Nov 2014.pdf - Adobe Acrobat Pro DC (32-bit)

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INTRODUCTION

Partners in Flight (PIF) was established in 2002. In the next 20 years, the PIF will work to conserve and restore the bird diversity of North America. In September 2011 near Chicago, Illinois, the PIF adopted a new mission and goals.

Version 1.2 includes new information and a discussion involving our new [Committee Griffin Group](#).

Contents widget or the

PARTNERS IN FLIGHT LANDBIRD CONSERVATION PLAN



2016 Revision for Canada and Continental United States

Windows taskbar and system tray area. Includes search bar, system clock (2:13 PM, 2/16/2022), and various application icons.

Partners in Flight projects – breadth and depth

- Migratory Bird Joint Venture Landbird Plans
- Alaska Bird Conservation Plan (Aug21) and implementation
- Science Communications (PIF website)
- PIF Science full annual cycle publication
- Partners in Flight Awards
- “Forest for the Birds” webinar series (NCTC, USFWS)
- Publications (independent and peer review journal) and symposia
- Host major international conferences (six in 30 years, last in 2017)
- Forest Industry – Wildlife Conservation Initiative - research, monitoring, management

Partners in Flight projects – breadth and depth

- Avian Conservation Database Assessment
- Western Forest initiative (with western JVs)
- Eastern Working Group – full annual cycle project
- Conservation Delivery capacity – multistate projects (SGCN and RAWA)
- “Road to Recovery”
- Grasslands Roadmap
- US State of the Birds reports
- World Migratory Bird Day
- Avian Knowledge Network

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A western forest initiative idea – PIF Western Working Group Team

- Human well-being targets
- engagement with Indigenous communities
- Human dimensions as co-production
- builds capacity to make bird conservation more efficient and effective, including technical as well as institutional capacity



Conservation Delivery capacity – multistate projects (SGCN and RAWA)

- Purpose: increased capacity to develop and deliver multi-state projects
- All bird species as priorities dictate
- Continued discussions and progress in NGTS
- Addresses a defined capacity gap
- Opportunities to integrate well being targets, DEJI



Next steps:

Continue to compile results

Use as broad guidelines

Objectives under 2016 plan

Distribute for review

Steering Committee tool

