

Responding to the 3 Billion Bird Decline: Opportunities for Expanding Engagement

AFWA Bird Conservation Committee

Todd Fearer

Coordinator, Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture

Responding to the 3 Billion Bird Decline: 5 Game Changing Paradigms



BB3BB Team

Todd Fearer (AMJV)

Tammy VerCauteren (Bird
Conservancy of the Rockies)

Dave Trevino (NPS)

Nicole Michel (Audubon)

Ken Rosenberg (Cornell)

John Alexander (Klamath Bird
Observatory)

Steve Albert (Institute for Bird
Populations)

Scott Sillett (Smithsonian Institute)

Geoff Geupel (Point Blue)

EJ Williams (ABC)

Pete Marra (Georgetown Univ.)

Jeff Gordon (American Birding
Association)

Bill Uihlein (USFWS)

Ashley Gramza (AR GFC)

Judith Scarl (NABCI/AFWA)

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BB3BB Team Actions

1. Recommendations to AFWA BCC at the North American
2. 5 Game Changing Paradigms White Paper
3. Developing NABCI Committee response to BB3BB
4. Continue to identify opportunities for states/AFWA

Responding to the 3 Billion Bird Decline: 5 Game Changing Paradigms

1. Unprecedented Coalition to address the Bird Crisis
2. Advanced “Road to Recovery” science to identify the specific causes of bird declines
3. Road Maps for Population Recovery and full annual cycle conservation
4. Bold, new legislative agenda
5. Unified messaging to bring back 3 billion birds

Responding to the 3 Billion Bird Decline: 5 Game Changing Paradigms

Recognize what these *Paradigms* are (or are not)

- The are not another planning framework for organizing our activities. Rather, they are a set of opportunities that grew out of, or were magnified by, the 3BB loss paper and recognition of the Bird Crisis. They should inspire the bird community with hope that our actions can make a difference.
- The *Game Changing Paradigms* are not mutually exclusive, and they are not sequential – they all overlap and must operate simultaneously as opportunities for addressing our most critical bird conservation needs.
- The Paradigms are the opportunities to transform our approach to bird conservation by changing **how** we do bird conservation. We need a vision and strategy for what the how looks like and steps for getting there.

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1. Unprecedented Coalition: Opportunities for a coordinated state response that promotes sharing of resources, accelerates the science that prioritizes where on the ground we need to be focusing our resources
 - AFWA, Flyways (Nongame Tech Sections), SWAPS
 - Grassland Conservation Efforts
2. Road to Recovery Science (Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Georgetown University, PIF, MJBVs): Opportunities for states to inform, and be informed by, the species prioritization process

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Road to Recovery Science

Full life cycle conservation business plan complete & limiting factors identified; targeted conservation actions and costs identified



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Full life cycle conservation business plan almost complete, science incomplete; broad threats confirmed, management & strategic broad-scale conservation action identified; incomplete cost estimates



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4

Working group has formed, early planning, large knowledge gaps, no targeted conservation



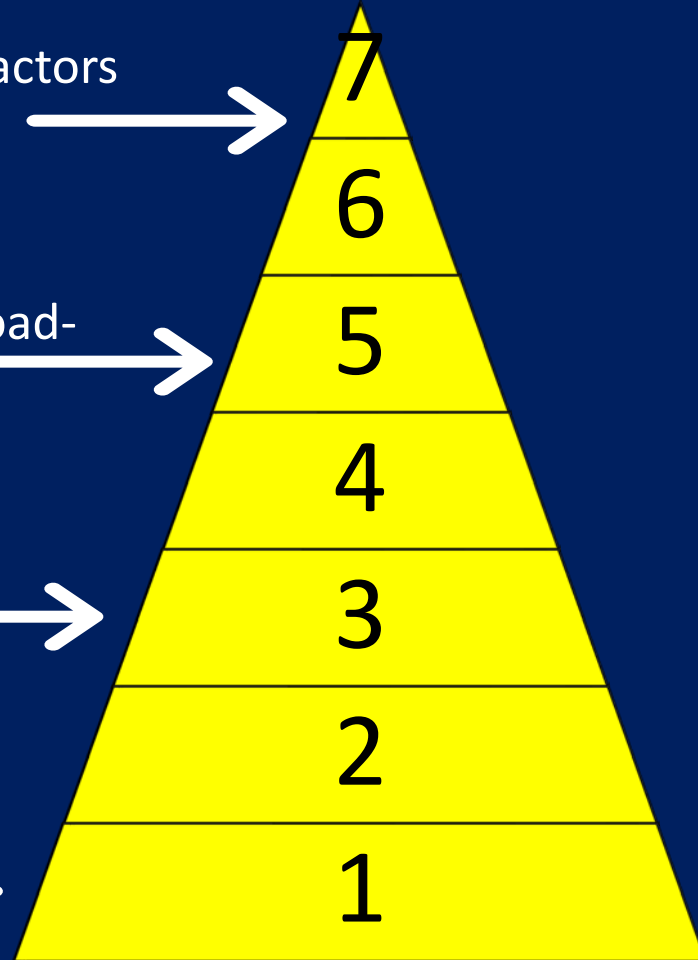
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Little to no thinking about species, no conservation actions taken



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3. Road Maps for Population Recovery: Integrated planning from National → Regional → SWAPS that consider biological integrity and ecological services; Full annual cycle goals/needs that facilitate greater engagement in Southern Wings
4. Legislative Agenda: Underpinning of RAWA is State Wildlife Action Plans; Need for integrating SWAPs with bird conservation efforts. For example, begin planning now for how a portion of future RAWA funds could be used to augment JV science and delivery efforts.
5. Unified Messaging: Elevating the role of states – State agencies were able to use the most recent State of the Birds Report to convey how important State agencies are in bird conservation.

Responding to the 3 Billion Bird Decline: Difficult transitions or business as usual?



Pandemic – dramatic increase in gardening, awareness of birds and pollinators; citizen science (eBird)

Political divisions – deregulation and redesignation of federal public lands, increases in LWCF

Social justice protests – increased awareness, diversity recruitment in conservation agencies; Christian Cooper in Central Park, Drew Lanham in Appalachia

Spiritual – increase in faith based, grassroots “Caring for Creation”