



# Using Atlas Data to Inform Bird Conservation

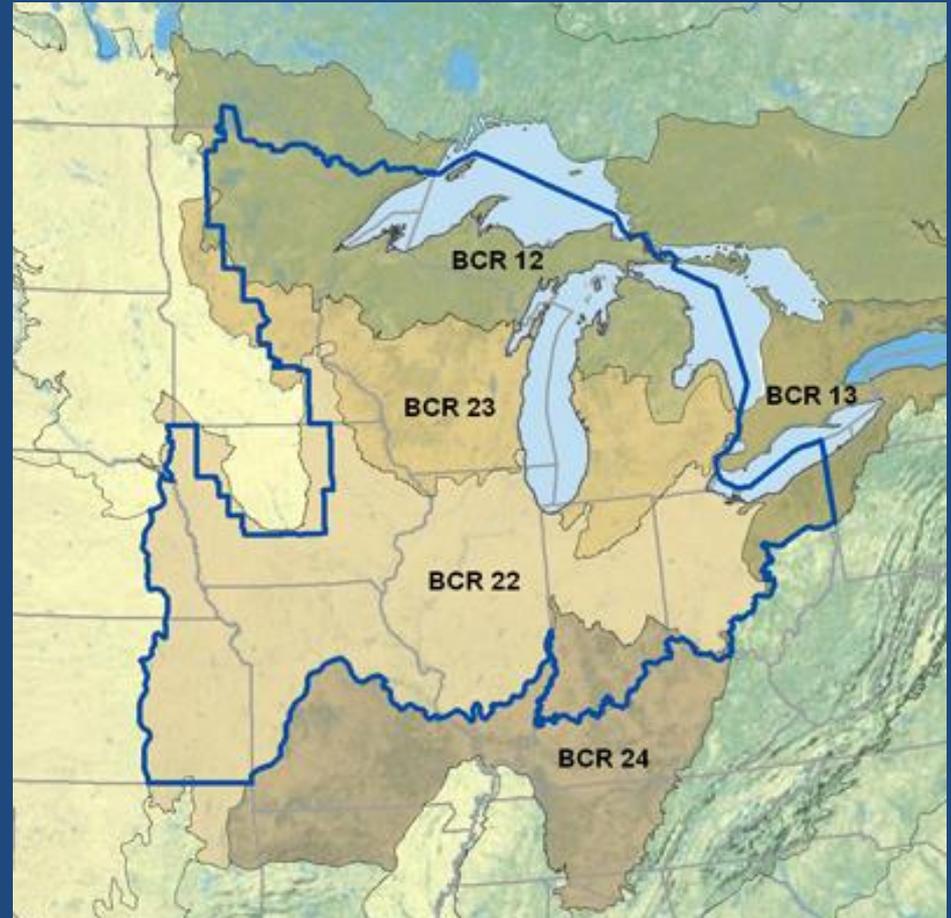


**Andy Forbes, Coordinator  
Upper Miss JV**



# Background – The Upper Mississippi River/ Great Lakes Region JV

- Established in 1993
- JV Management Board members from 10 states, federal agencies, NGOs
- Five JV staff
  - Bloomington, MN (2)
  - East Lansing, MI (3)

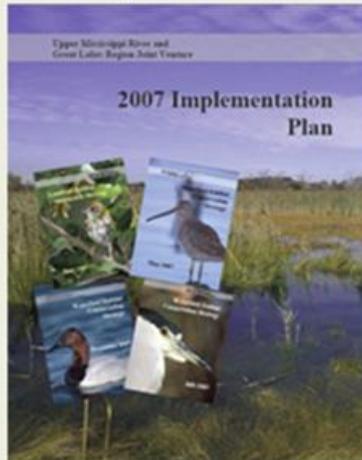


# What We Do

- **Assist with development, preparation, and review of NAWCA proposals and other projects**
- **Work with partners to identify shared research/monitoring and protection/restoration priorities and objectives, track accomplishments**
- **Administer GLRI-JV and JV Science grant programs**
- **Develop decision support tools for partnership**

# JV Implementation Plans

**2007 Implementation Plan**



**Landbird Habitat Conservation Strategy**



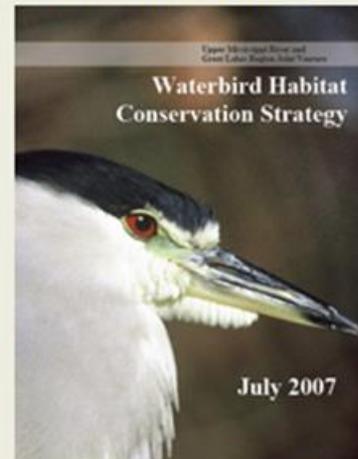
**Shorebird Habitat Conservation Strategy**

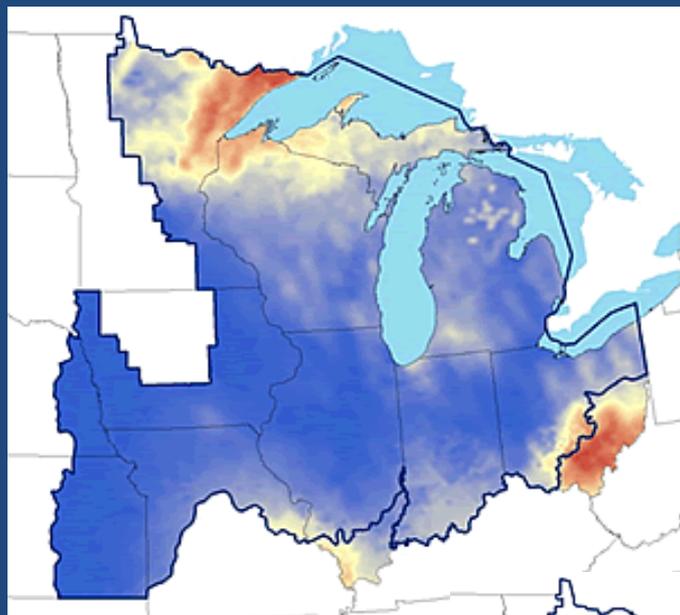


**Waterfowl Habitat Conservation Strategy**



**Waterbird Habitat Conservation Strategy**



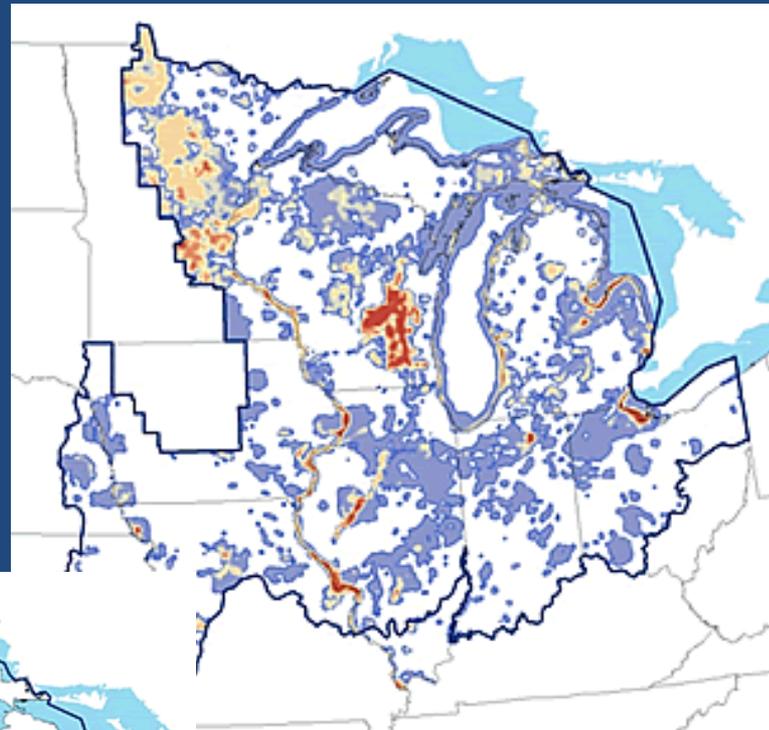


Value to woodland breeding birds

Higher

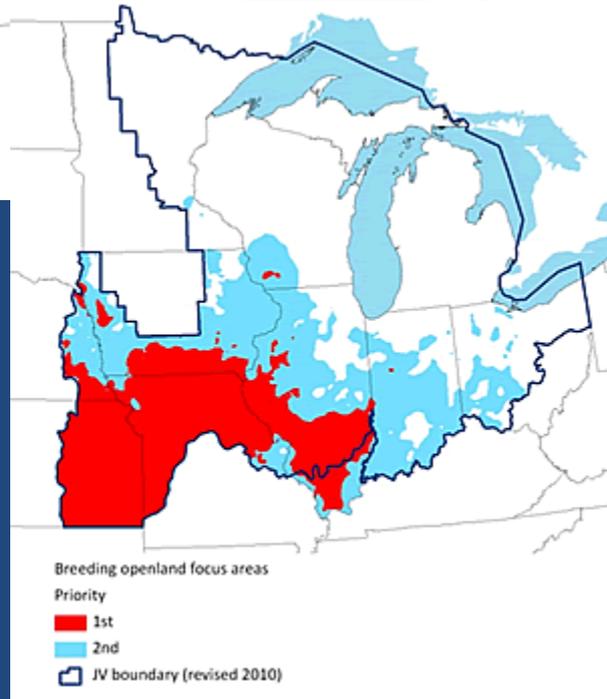
Lower

JV boundary (revised 2010)



d birds

ry (revised 2010)



Breeding openland focus areas

Priority

1st

2nd

JV boundary (revised 2010)

# North American Breeding Bird Survey (NABBS)

- Annual monitoring effort run throughout NA
- Roadside surveys, 50 stops along route
- Developed to track trends in bird populations at large scales
- Tracks some species better than others



Patuxent Bird Identification and Breeding Bird  
Survey Results



## Wisconsin

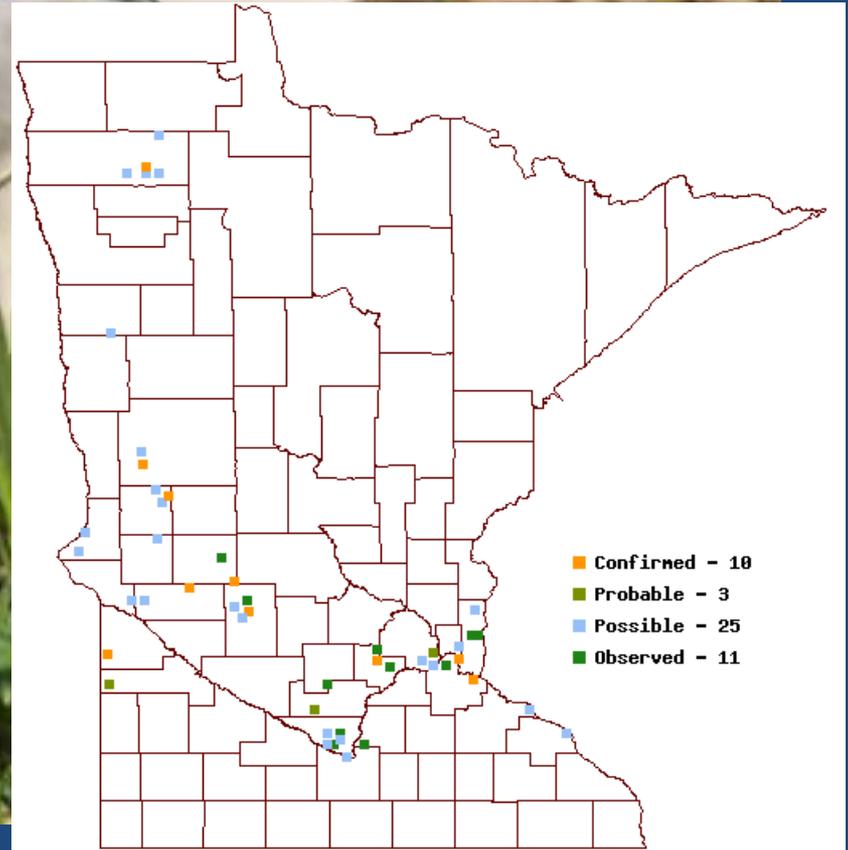
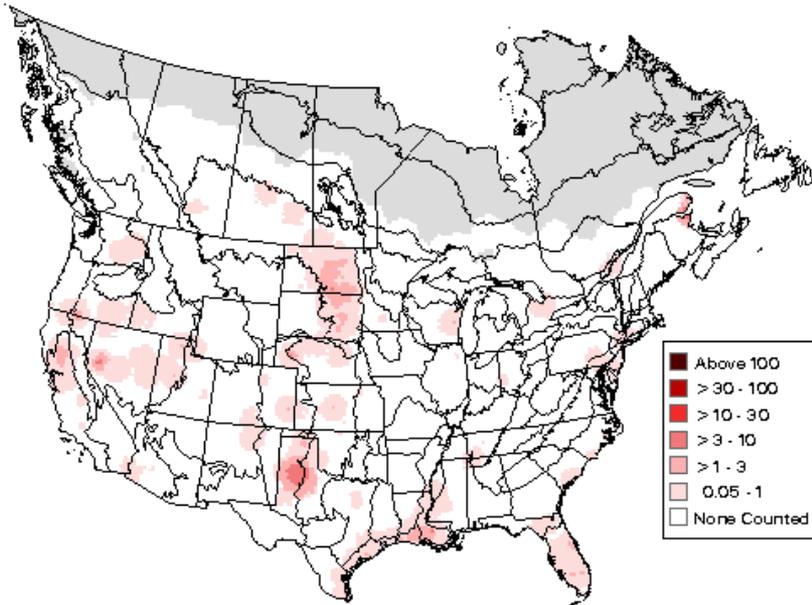
### North American Breeding Bird Survey Trend Results

[Help file](#)

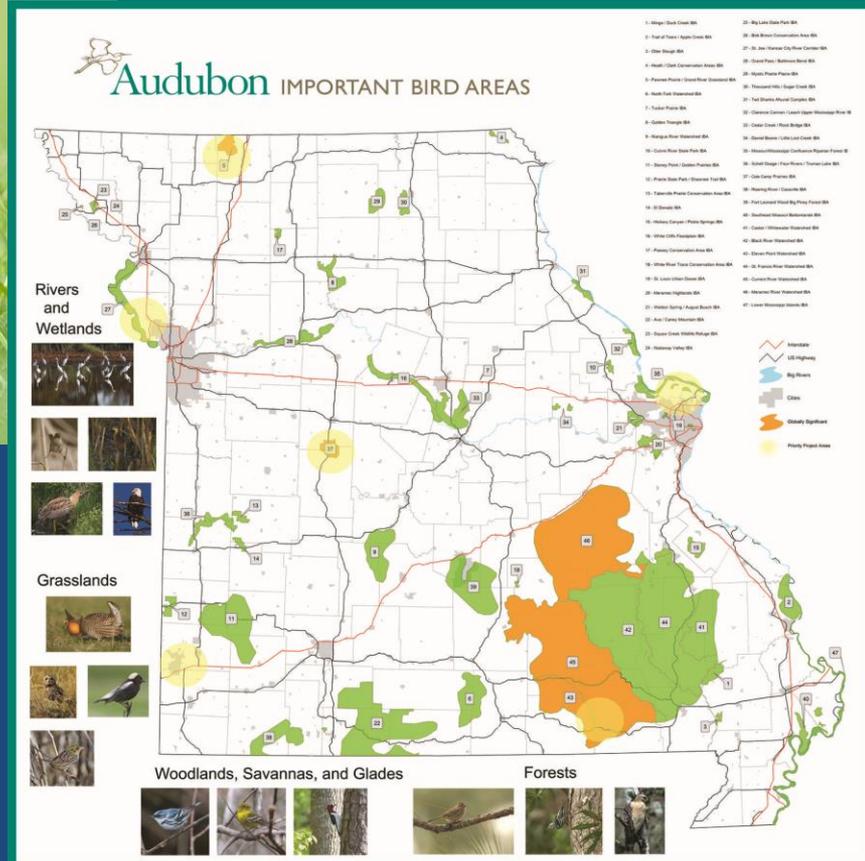
Check out our [Regional Credibility](#)  measure

Species	-----1966-2013 trends-----			-----2003-2013-----			RA
	N	Trend	( 95% CI )	Trend	( 95% CI )		
 Pied-billed Grebe	42	-1.91	( -3.63, -0.02)	-2.41	( -7.45, 2.54)	0.15	
 Common Loon	44	1.98	( 0.97, 2.97)	1.99	( -0.53, 4.02)	0.51	
 Herring Gull	23	0.00	( -2.82, 2.66)	2.81	( -3.26, 13.02)	0.58	
 Ring-billed Gull	44	11.91	( 6.53, 15.36)	8.56	( -2.19, 17.62)	0.64	
 Forster's Tern	12	3.86	( -0.63, 8.52)	2.77	( -11.48, 9.42)	0.06	
 Black Tern	41	-5.65	( -7.58, -3.85)	-5.56	( -11.51, -1.76)	0.52	
 Double-crested Cormorant	32	6.80	( 2.85, 11.44)	7.26	( -3.27, 21.14)	0.21	
 American White Pelican	6	80.37	( 51.62, 131.58)	79.97	( 47.10, 130.71)	0.00	
 Common Merganser	22	4.22	( 0.75, 8.24)	6.21	( 0.02, 25.45)	0.02	
 Hooded Merganser	40	3.81	( 1.65, 6.08)	3.93	( -0.74, 8.98)	0.06	
 American Black Duck	21	-4.48	( -11.82, 1.90)	-2.40	( -24.72, 25.74)	0.03	
 Green-winged Teal	21	0.64	( -4.82, 5.75)	0.52	( -17.23, 12.92)	0.03	
 Blue-winged Teal	63	-3.11	( -4.85, -1.23)	-1.48	( -8.06, 6.06)	0.40	
 Northern Shoveler	11	-0.66	( -11.23, 12.31)	-0.35	( -38.06, 59.64)	0.00	
 Northern Pintail	14	-8.91	( -15.46, -3.90)	-8.39	( -24.04, 9.71)	0.01	
 Wood Duck	92	1.62	( 0.43, 2.80)	1.31	( -2.58, 3.97)	1.03	
 Lesser Scaup	5	-9.60	( -23.42, 2.08)	-9.52	( -31.73, 14.05)	0.01	
 Ring-necked Duck	16	-0.80	( -5.77, 4.12)	-1.92	( -21.52, 12.01)	0.03	
 Canada Goose	95	16.28	( 13.58, 19.19)	15.28	( 7.32, 22.47)	4.77	
 American Bittern	63	-3.35	( -4.99, -1.65)	-3.74	( -9.14, 1.29)	0.27	
 Least Bittern	12	1.58	( -3.58, 7.35)	1.39	( -9.39, 12.11)	0.01	
 Great Egret	30	1.86	( -1.03, 5.04)	3.18	( -4.42, 16.34)	0.11	
 Green Heron	91	-0.28	( -1.46, 0.89)	-2.96	( -6.83, 0.73)	0.58	
 Black-crowned Night-Her	19	-1.21	( -5.21, 3.94)	-2.65	( -17.25, 10.85)	0.07	

# Black-crowned Night-Heron (MN)



# Using BBA data to identify focal areas



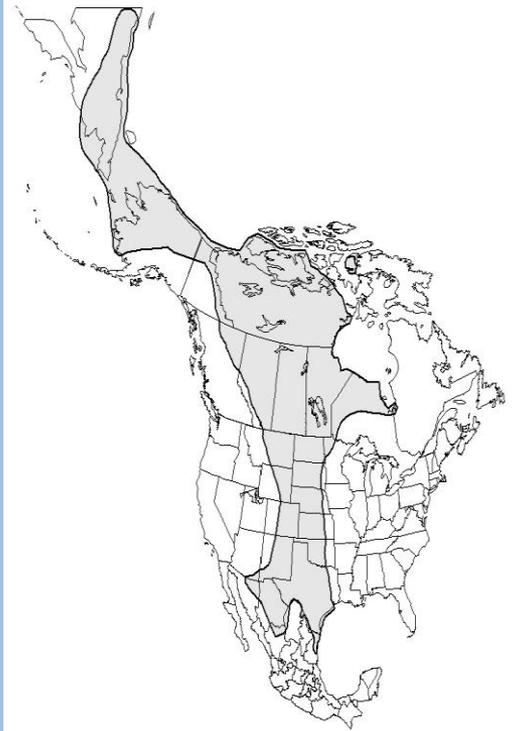
# Sandhill Cranes in Minnesota

MN Coop. Unit, FWS, MN DNR



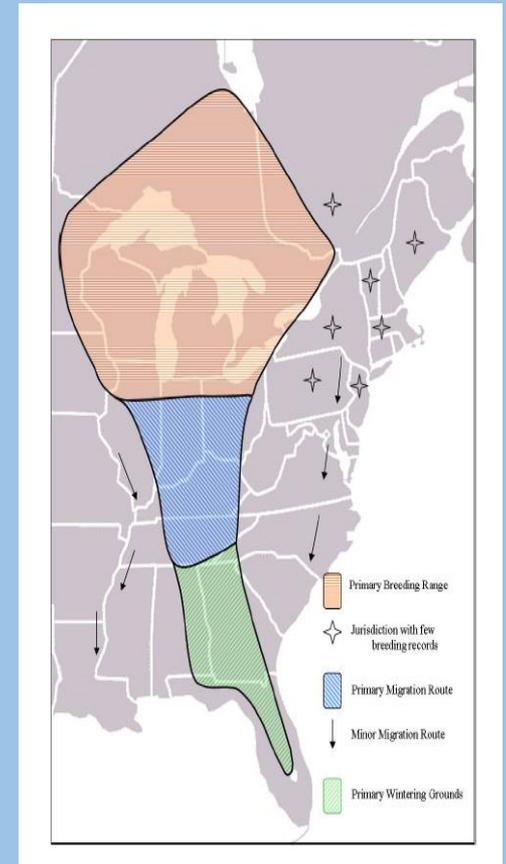
# Mid-Continent Population (MCP)

- Population roughly about 500,000
- Hunted in each state in flyway except Nebraska
- Minnesota established hunting season in 2010



# Eastern Population (EP)

- Population ~80,000
- Only two states (KY and TN) allow a small-scale season
- Illegal to hunt in Minnesota



# Annual and three-year average of fall counts of EP Sandhill Cranes

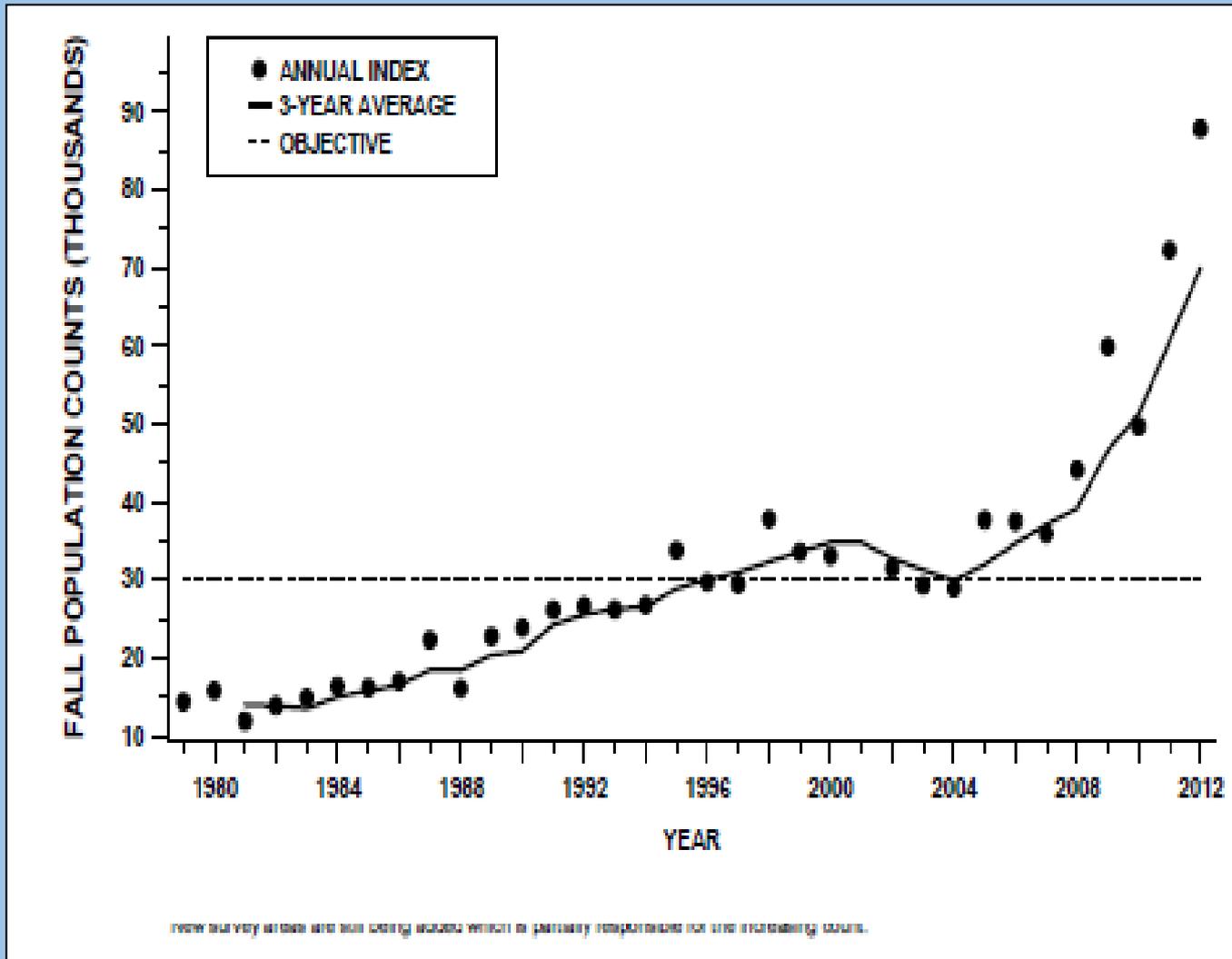
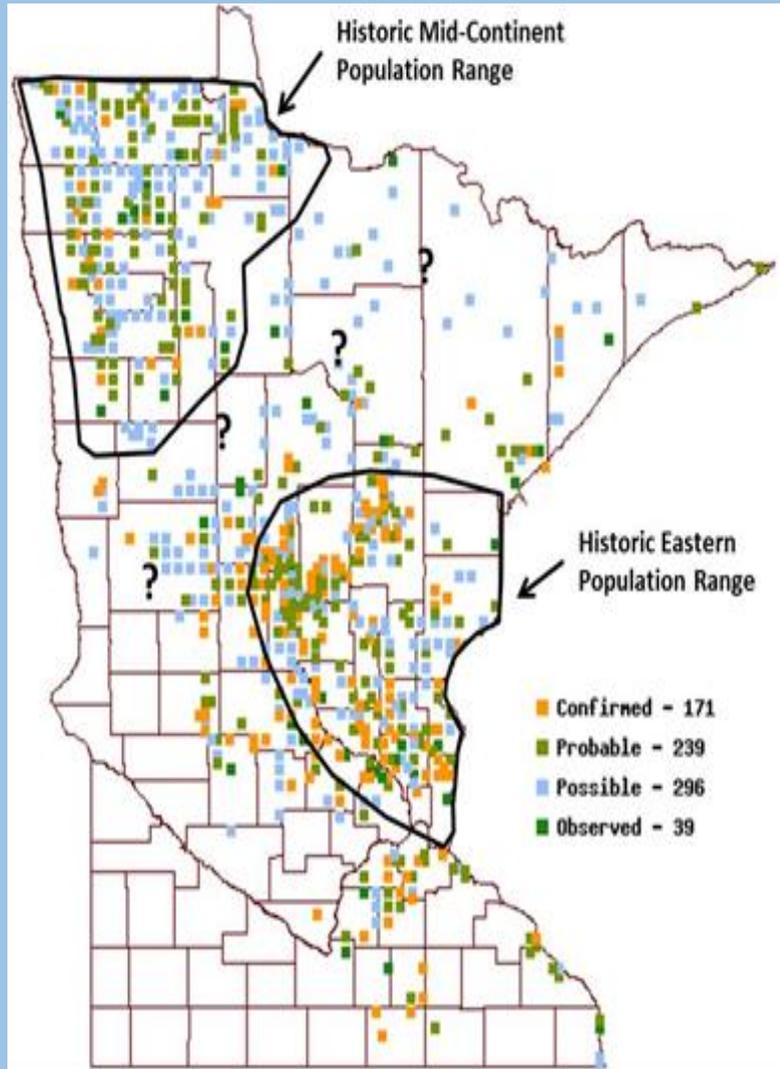


Image courtesy of: Kruse, K. L., Dubovsky, J. A., & Cooper, T. R. (2012). Status and harvests of sandhill cranes: mid-continent, Rocky Mountain, Lower Colorado River Valley and eastern population

# MN Breeding Bird Atlas Sandhill Crane Locations

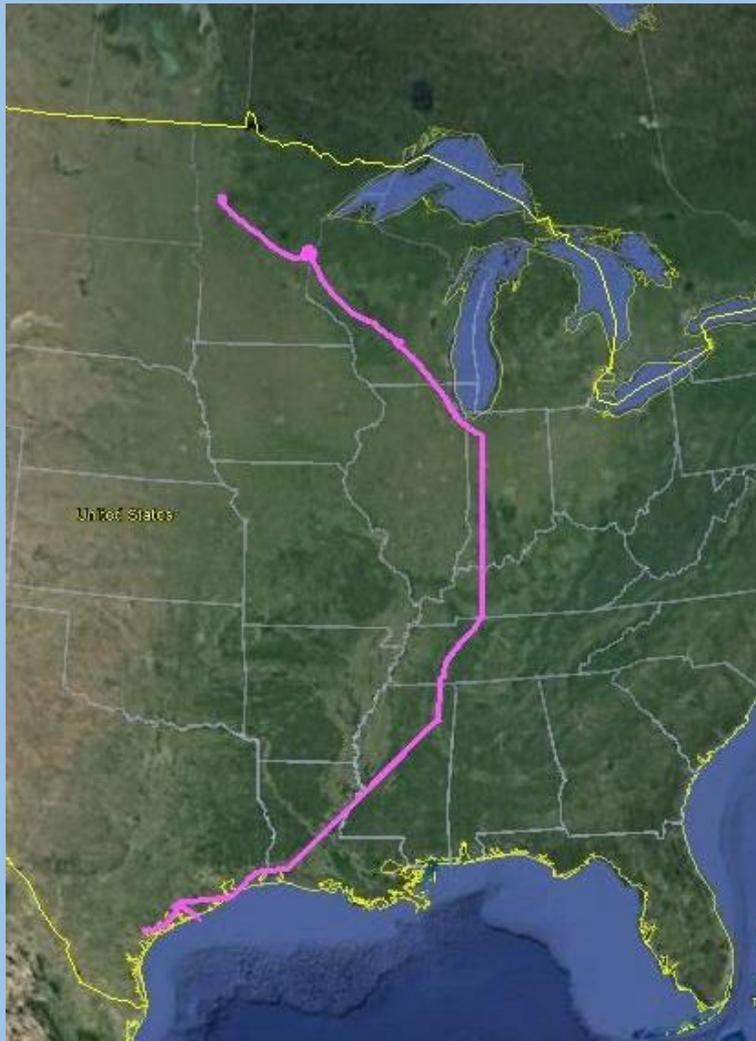


*Sandhill crane locations in Minnesota based on preliminary data from the Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas*

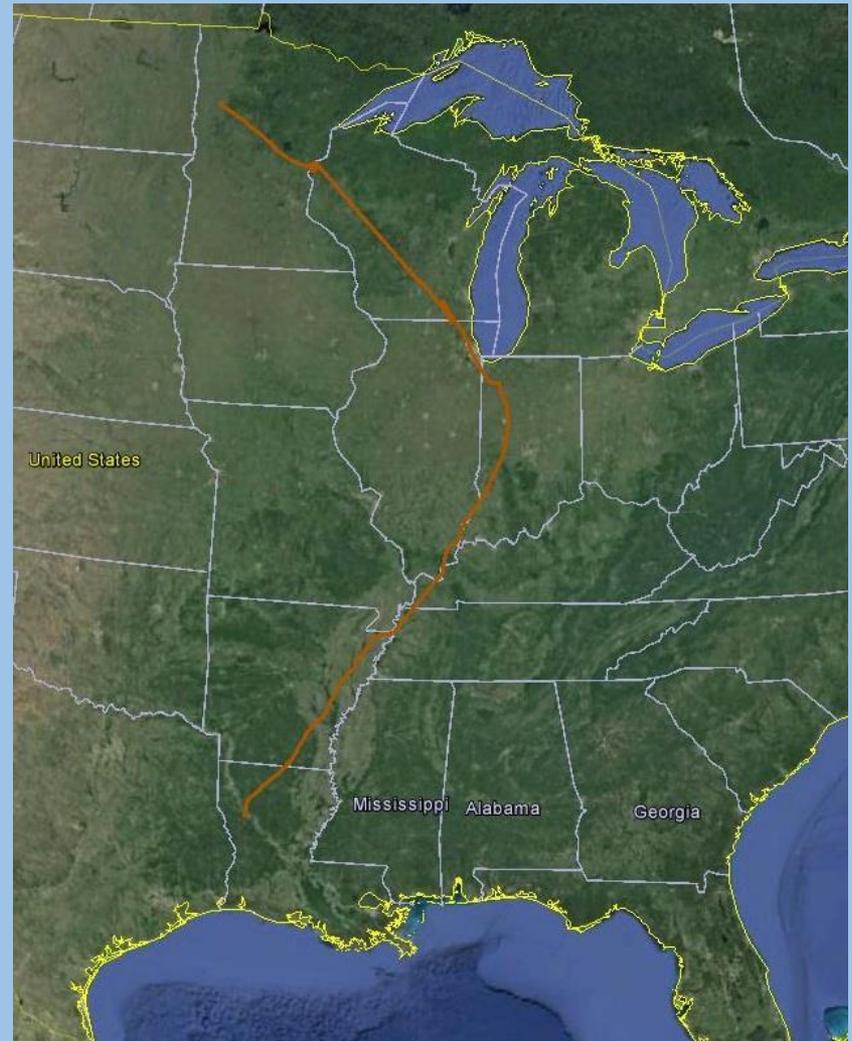
BBA data courtesy of Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas (2014). Pending final review, this data must be treated as preliminary. Available at [mnbbba.org/cgi-bin/query.pl](http://mnbbba.org/cgi-bin/query.pl) [17 Sep 2014]

# Interesting movement patterns

Ogema adult fall 2015



Waubun adult fall #2



# Building Connections for Bird Conservation



# Celebrating 100 Years of Bird Conservation



*Migratory Bird Treaty Centennial 1916-2016*



# Today...

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## *Migratory Bird Treaty Centennial (1916-2016)*

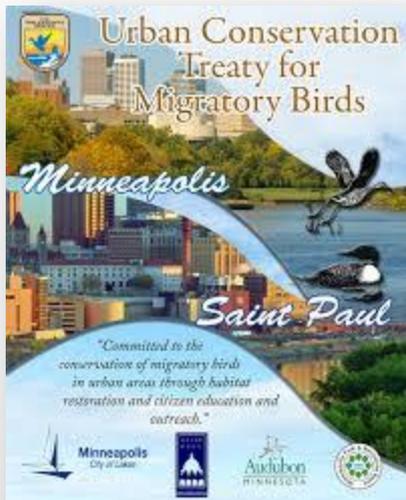


- Awareness
- Action
- Support
- Engagement

# Tomorrow...

## *Migratory Bird Treaty Centennial (1916-2016)*

Create **awareness** among adults and children about bird conservation, that healthy habitats are healthy for birds and people.



© Katie Koch



# Tomorrow...

*Migratory Bird Treaty Centennial (1916-2016)*

Promote key **actions** to help migratory birds.



# Tomorrow...

## *Migratory Bird Treaty Centennial (1916-2016)*

Increase **support** for migratory bird conservation programs and initiatives



Golden-winged Warbler  
*Vermivora chrysoptera*



Map by Cornell Lab of Ornithology  
Range data by NatureServe

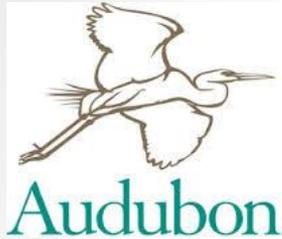
# Tomorrow...

*Migratory Bird Treaty Centennial (1916-2016)*

Increase opportunities to **engage** youth and adults in hunting and birdwatching.



# One Community, One Celebration



The Nature Conservancy



ASSOCIATION of FISH & WILDLIFE AGENCIES



North American Waterfowl Management Plan  
Plan nord-américain de gestion de la sauvagine  
Plan de Manejo de Aves Acuáticas de Norteamérica



**Thanks!**

