



Western Working Group Partners In Flight Fall Meeting - 21-24 Oct 2025 Helena, MT



Dates: 21-24 October 2025

Location - Helena, MT

Hotel - Best Western Premier Helena Great Northern Hotel

835 Great Northern Boulevard, Helena, Montana 59601-3315 United States

Registration -

<https://klamathbird.org/uncategorized/western-working-group-spring-2025-registration-2/>

Agenda Summary

	Tue 21	Wed 22	Thur 23	Fri 24
Morning 8:30-11:30 am	Field Site Visit: Rogers Pass	Conservation Without Borders	Motus	Field Site Visit: Montana Wild
Lunch 11:30 am - 1:00 pm				
Afternoon 1:00-4:00 pm	Project Presentations	Western Forests	Part 1 Avian Knowledge Network Part 2 Fire Management	
Evening		Group Dinner		

Tuesday 21 Oct

7:00 - 11:00 am Morning Session - Field Site Visit: Rogers Pass Golden Eagle Migration Site

1:00 - 4:00 pm Afternoon Session

- Introduction and welcoming remarks - Adam Brewerton, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
 - Desired outcomes of the meeting
- Migratory Bird Joint Ventures Updates (updates, current priority initiatives)
 - Intermountain West Joint Venture - Mariah McIntosh
 - Prairie Pothole Joint Venture - Policy to manage risks of grass-based vs row-crop operations – Whitney Polich
 - Northern Great Plains Joint Venture -Grassland conservation, science-based local planning, supporting ag-based communities - Catherine Wightman
 - Sonoran Joint Venture - the Grassland Outcomes Tool ([GOT Birds](#)) - Adam Hannuksela



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- Pacific Flyway Council Liaison Update, Emily VanWyk, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and Allison Begley, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
 - o Partners Meeting, other items
- Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Update - Edwin Juarez, Arizona Game and Fish Department and John Alexander, Klamath Bird Observatory
- Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) List update and development of a high-level report on activities - TBD, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Wednesday 22 Oct

8:30 - 11:30 am Morning Session

Conservation Without Borders: Sharing knowledge and collaborative multinational efforts for multispecies ecosystem conservation

Goal: Share experiences and collaborative multinational efforts for multispecies ecosystem conservation, as an integrative approach to the full-life cycle conservation of migratory birds.

Objectives:

1. Share experiences and collaborative approaches from partners delivering multi-species ecosystem conservation in Mexico, Central America, United States and Canada.
2. Identify ways to strengthen and increase collaborations in the Partners in Flight network to benefit migratory and resident bird species across the region.
3. Recognize that all efforts and approaches, North and South, make an important contribution to the conservation of both migratory and resident bird species.

8:30 - Welcome and review of session, Edwin Juarez, Arizona Game and Fish Department

8:40 - The Society for the Study and Conservation of Birds in Mexico ([CIPAMEX](#)) Update

8:50 - National Bird Conservation Strategy in Mexico (ENCA) - Adrian Valera, Pronatura Noreste

9:10 Next Partners in Flight Product - Saving our Shared Birds, Landbird Conservation Plan - Becky Stewart, Canadian Wildlife Service?

9:30: Potential opportunity to establish a PIF Mentorship - Elva Manquera, Klamath Bird Observatory

9:45 - BREAK

10:00: International Project Highlight

Voluntary conservation of private land reserves in Guatemala, Juan Zelada, Asociación de Reservas Naturales Privadas de Guatemala

10:20: Full Annual Cycle Conservation of Purple Martins, Joe Siegrist, Purple Martin Conservation Association



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10:40: Southern Wings- Expanding the [Motus](#) Network in Northern Central America to Advance Conservation of Migratory and Resident Avian Species - Edwin Juarez

11:30 Open conversation and discussion

11:30 am - 1:00 pm Lunch

1:00 - 4:00 pm Afternoon Session

Creating a Community of Practice for Western Forests -

- Where we are “at” as the Western Forest Bird Committee - Collaboration and the Integrated Conservation Framework for Western Forests - setting the stage for today - Becky Stewart, Canadian Wildlife Service
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- Lewis’ Woodpecker - Tanya Luszcz, Canadian Wildlife Service
- PIF and Joint Ventures work together to move Western Forest conservation forward - United States Intermountain West and Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Ventures - TBD, Klamath Bird Observatory
- Pinyon Jay Collaborative Efforts - Scott Somershoe et al., United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program - Jamie Ratliff, United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service
- Advancing Full Life Cycle Conservation for Olive-sided Flycatcher - Julie Hagelin, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

DISCUSSION - What do we need to catalyze/accelerate conservation for western forests birds and how can we do it?

Evening - Group dinner

Thursday 23 Oct

9:00 - 11:30 am Morning Session - [Motus](#)

Regional Updates For Motus



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9:00 Arrive, Welcome and Introductions

9:05 **Motus Updates for Latin America**

South America - Nick Bayly, SELVA

Central America - Nick Bayly

Northern Central America - Edwin Juarez, Arizona Game & Fish Department

Northwestern Mexico - Julian Garcia Walther, Pronatura Noroeste

Southern Mexico - TBD

9:40 **Motus Updates for the western U.S.**

Arizona - Edwin Juarez

New Mexico - Erin Duvuvuei, New Mexico Dept. of Game & Fish

Utah - Adam Brewerton, Utah Dept. of Natural Resources

Grassland Birds - Jessie Reese & Kylie Lamoree - Bird Conservancy of the Rockies

Montana - John Kuntz, Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

Pacific Northwest - William Blake, American Bird Conservancy

California - Levi Souza, California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Nevada - Matt Flores, Nevada Dept. of Wildlife

10:25 **Western Canada Motus update - TBD**

Local work and new Motus equipment

10:35 Local talk - title TBD - Maggie Blake, Univ. of Montana Bird Ecology Lab

10:55 Blu Plus Tags and Terra - Pat Lorch, Southern Sierra Research Station

11:05 Misc topics and/or discussion

11:30 am - 1:00 pm Lunch

1:00 - 4:00 pm Afternoon Session

1:00 - Part 1: Avian Conservation Collaboration through the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN), Liz Neipert

Project database and tool-Demonstration

How the AKN can serve you and your partners -Discussion

2:15 - Break

2:30 - Part 2: Bird Friendly and Fire Safe - Geoff Geupel, Point Blue Conservation Science

Follow up on the fire session from the spring meeting

Ecosystem resilience - Riparian and Fire



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4:00 - 4:30 pm - Executive Committee business meeting

Friday 24 Oct

Field Site Visit - [Montana Wild](#)

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