

BirdCast

Weather surveillance radar perspectives on bird migration in the United States

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29 September 2022

The **Cornell** Lab  of Ornithology

Showcasing the spectacle of bird migration

When, where, and how far will birds migrate? How many birds passed last night? Our tools help you explore the answers to these and many other questions about bird migration.

[Learn how](#)



MYSTERY OF THE MISSING MIGRANTS | © Charley Harper Art Studio | Used with Permission

POWERED BY

The **Cornell**Lab 

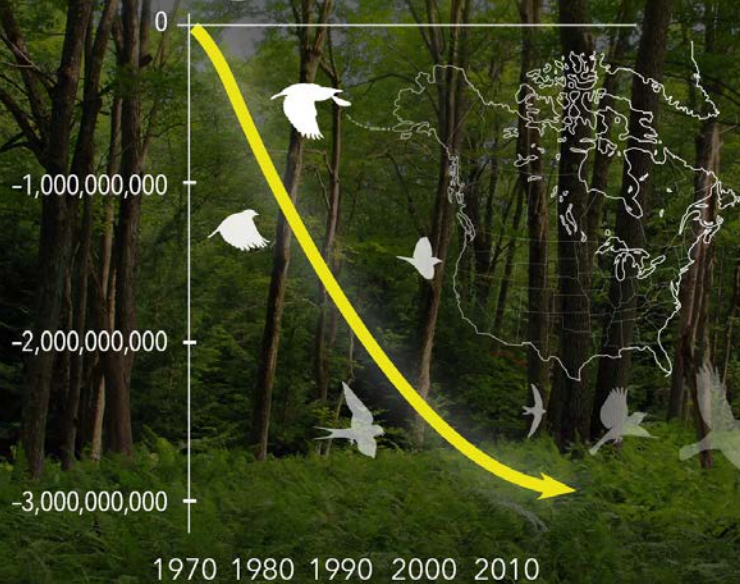


Colorado State University

UMassAmherst

2.9 billion

birds gone since 1970



Forest by Nicholas Forelli/Creative Commons, Map from Birds of North America birdsna.org

Courtesy of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Source: Science, 2019

Migratory Birds

2.5

BILLION

MIGRATORY BIRDS
LOST SINCE 1970

-28%

POPULATION LOSS
IN MIGRATORY
BIRD SPECIES
SINCE 1970

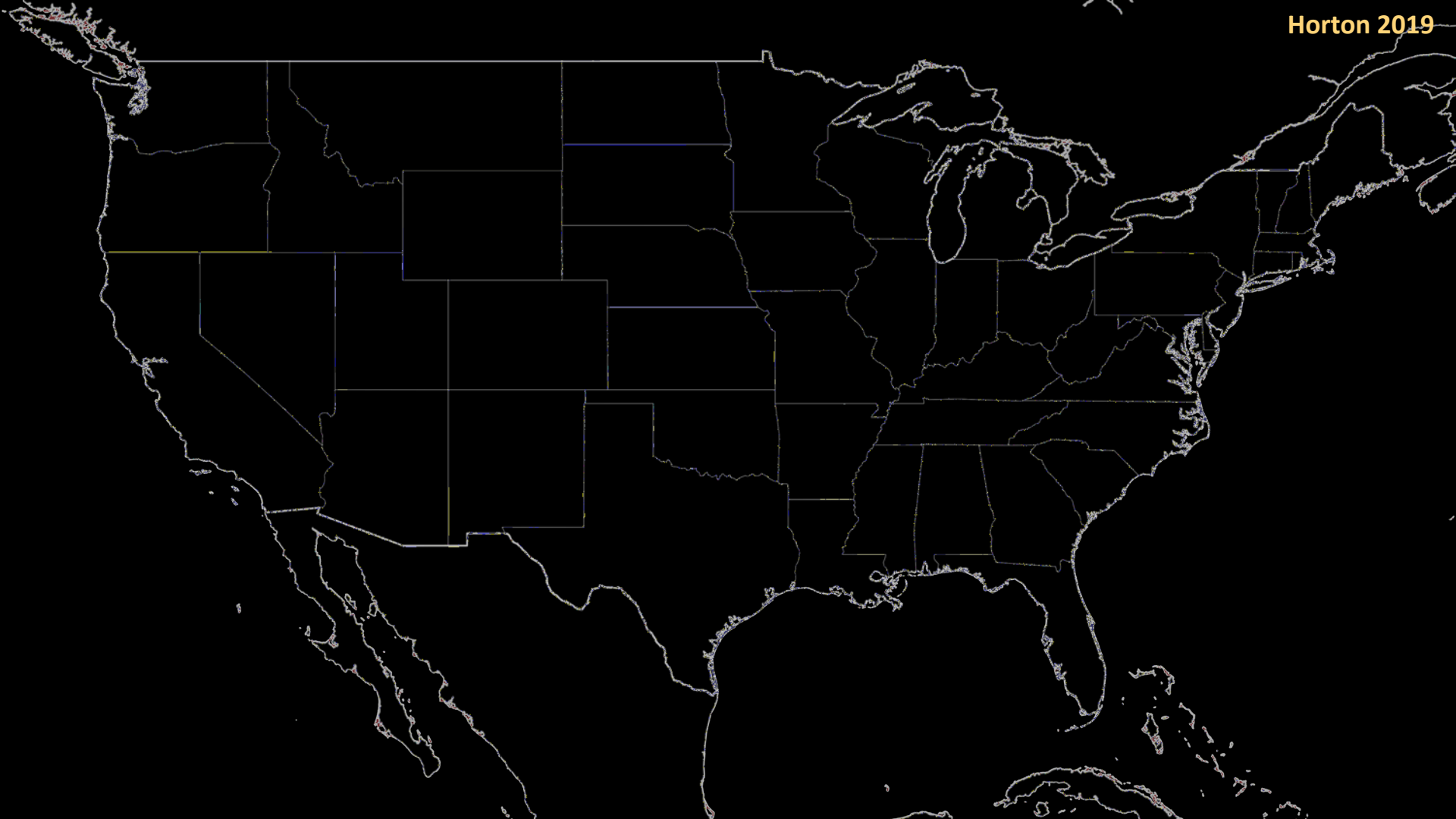
2 IN 5

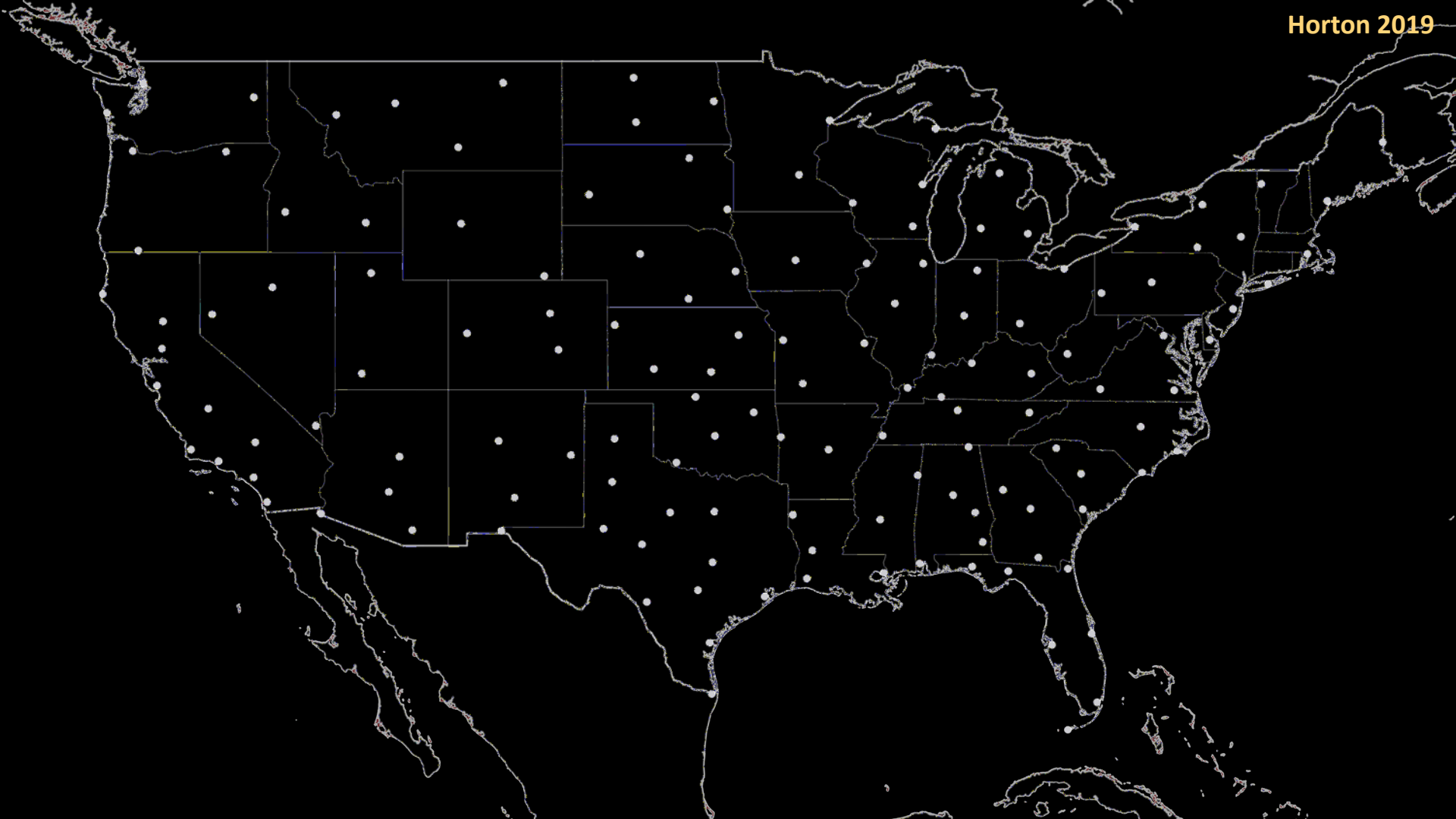
BALTIMORE ORIOLES
LOST SINCE 1970

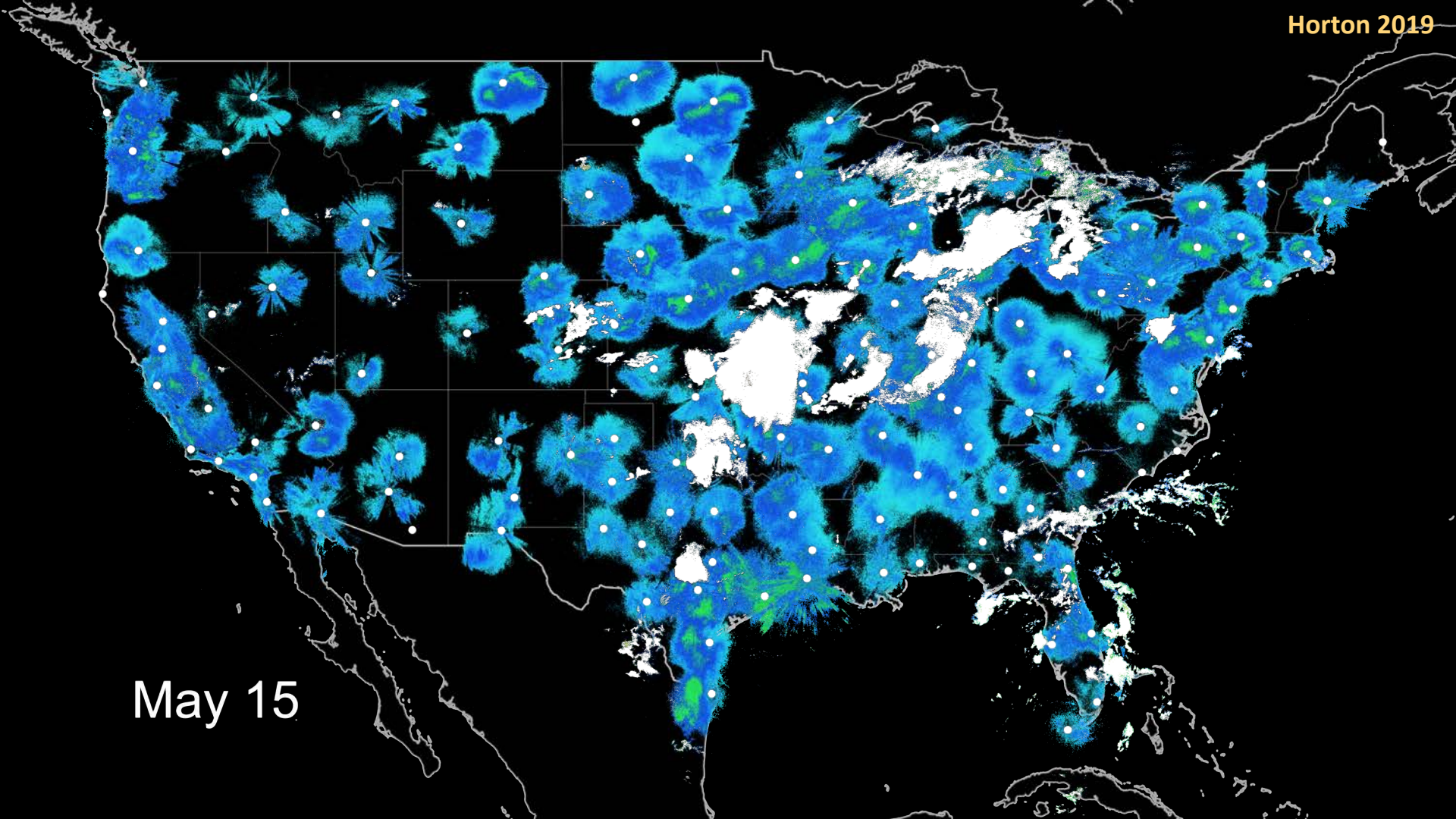


Baltimore Oriole by Gary Mueller/Mesa Arts Library, Forest by Nicholas Forelli/Creative Commons

Courtesy of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Source: Science, 2019

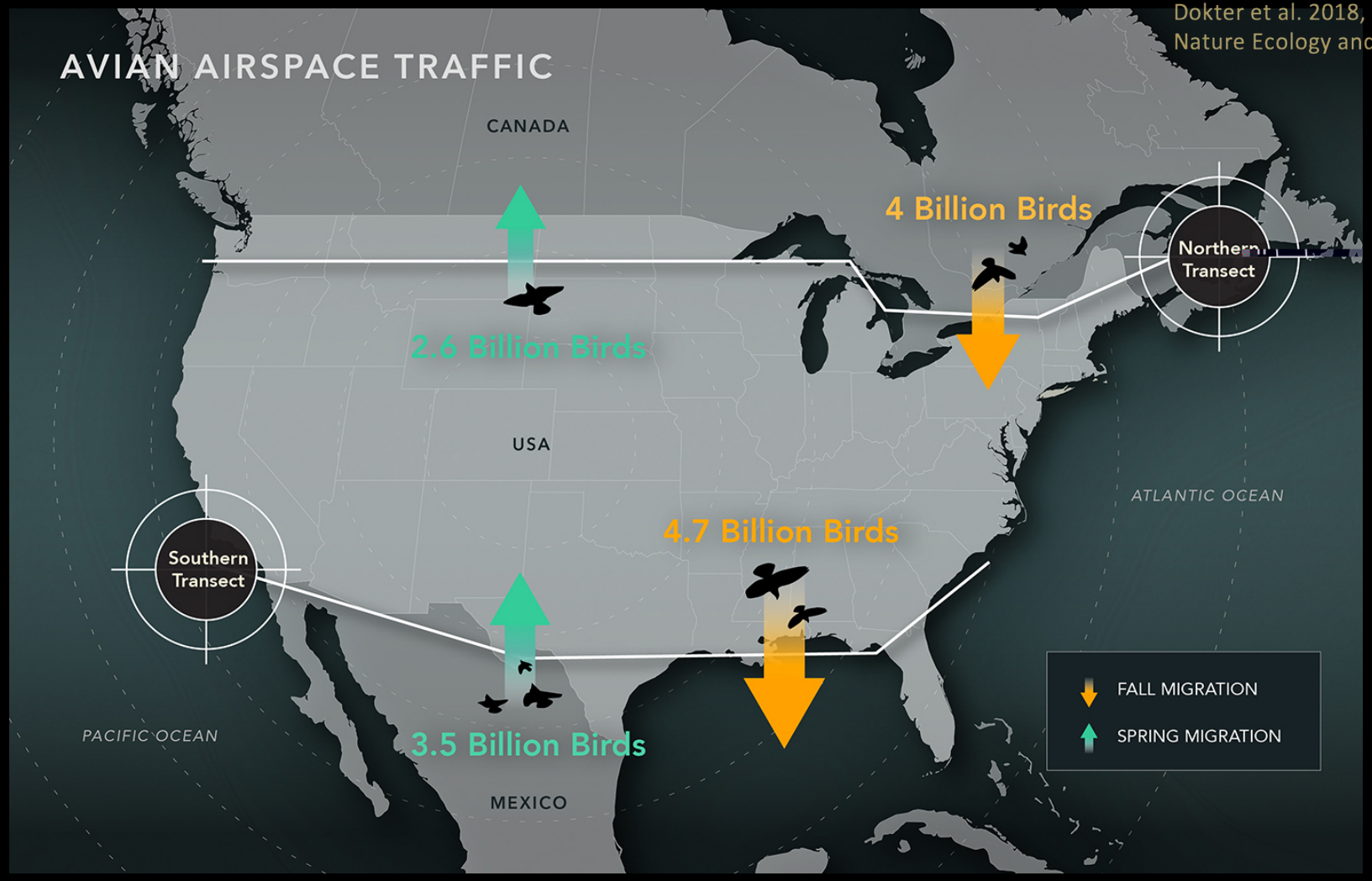






May 15

AVIAN AIRSPACE TRAFFIC



CANADA

4 Billion Birds

Northern
Transect

2.6 Billion Birds

USA

4.7 Billion Birds

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Southern
Transect

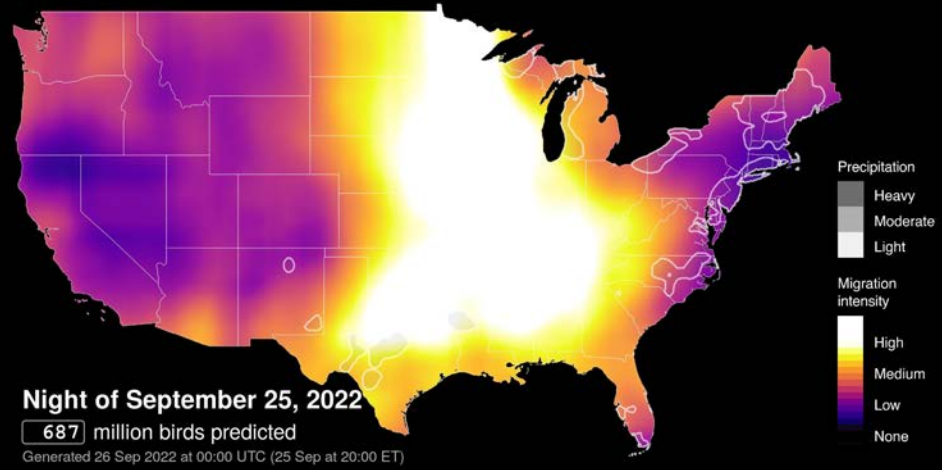
PACIFIC OCEAN

3.5 Billion Birds

MEXICO

- ↓ FALL MIGRATION
- ↑ SPRING MIGRATION

Forecast Migration Maps

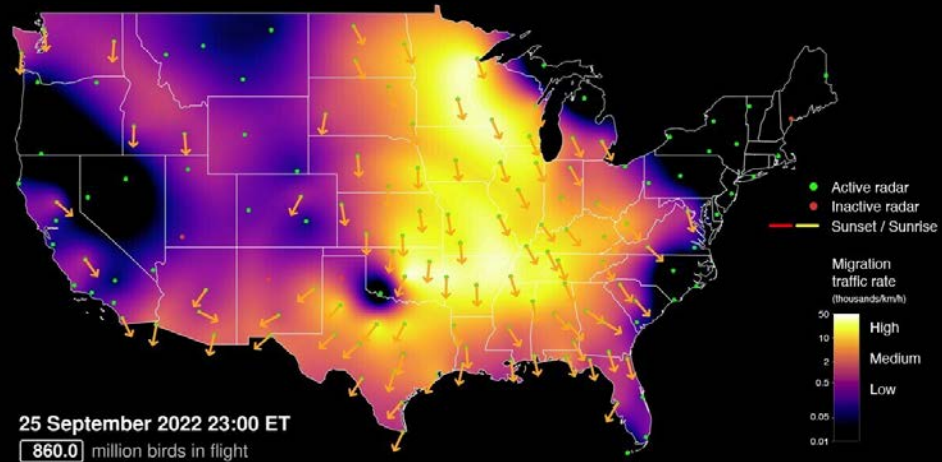


Bird migration forecast

Van Doren and Horton 2022

BirdCast

Live/Observed Migration Maps



Live bird migration maps

Dokter 2022

BirdCast

Migration Dashboard

Lights Out Alerts: alert.birdcast.info/lightsout

Lights Out Alerts BirdCast

Portland, OR, USA Change location

Tonight's migration forecast ⓘ
Night of Thursday, September 29

High >10,000 birds/km/night

Lights Out Alert
Turn off your lights tonight to save migrating birds.

A Lights Out Alert has been issued for this region. Large numbers of birds are forecast to migrate over this area overnight. Bright lights attract and disorient nocturnally migrating birds, potentially causing fatal collisions with buildings or exposure to additional day time hazards. Help protect birds as they pass through your region by turning off all non-essential lighting from 11:00PM tonight until 6:00AM tomorrow morning. [Learn more](#)

[Subscribe to alerts](#)

3-night migration forecast ⓘ

Thu, Sep 29 High >10,000 birds/km/night	Fri, Sep 30 Medium 7,000-10,000 birds/km/night	Sat, Oct 1 Medium 7,000-10,000 birds/km/night
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Lights Out Alerts BirdCast

Duluth, MN, USA Change location

Tonight's migration forecast ⓘ
Night of Thursday, September 29

Low 0-14,000 birds/km/night

No lights out alert

No Lights Out Alert has been issued for this region. However, a low/medium amount of birds are forecast to migrate over this area overnight. Bright lights attract and disorient nocturnally migrating birds, potentially causing fatal collisions with buildings or exposure to additional day time hazards. You can still help protect any birds that pass through your region tonight by turning off all non-essential lighting from 11:00PM tonight until 6:00AM tomorrow morning. [Learn more](#)

[Subscribe to alerts](#)

3-night migration forecast ⓘ

Thu, Sep 29 Low 0-14,000 birds/km/night	Fri, Sep 30 Low 0-14,000 birds/km/night	Sat, Oct 1 Low 0-14,000 birds/km/night
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Lights Out Alerts BirdCast

New York, NY, USA Change location

Tonight's migration forecast ⓘ
Night of Thursday, September 29

High >6,000 birds/km/night

Lights Out Alert
Turn off your lights tonight to save migrating birds.

A Lights Out Alert has been issued for this region. Large numbers of birds are forecast to migrate over this area overnight. Bright lights attract and disorient nocturnally migrating birds, potentially causing fatal collisions with buildings or exposure to additional day time hazards. Help protect birds as they pass through your region by turning off all non-essential lighting from 11:00PM tonight until 6:00AM tomorrow morning. [Learn more](#)

[Subscribe to alerts](#)

3-night migration forecast ⓘ

Thu, Sep 29 High >6,000 birds/km/night	Fri, Sep 30 High >6,000 birds/km/night	Sat, Oct 1 High >6,000 birds/km/night
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Lights Out Alerts BirdCast

Houston, TX Change location

Tonight's migration forecast ⓘ
Night of Thursday, September 29

High >23,000 birds/km/night

Lights Out Alert
Turn off your lights tonight to save migrating birds.

A Lights Out Alert has been issued for this region. Large numbers of birds are forecast to migrate over this area overnight. Bright lights attract and disorient nocturnally migrating birds, potentially causing fatal collisions with buildings or exposure to additional day time hazards. Help protect birds as they pass through your region by turning off all non-essential lighting from 11:00PM tonight until 6:00AM tomorrow morning. [Learn more](#)

[Subscribe to alerts](#)

3-night migration forecast ⓘ

Thu, Sep 29 High >23,000 birds/km/night	Fri, Sep 30 Medium 11,000-23,000 birds/km/night	Sat, Oct 1 High >23,000 birds/km/night
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Visit the CSU AeroEco Lab for state and national visualizations: aeroecolab.com/uslights

**Timing of peak bird migration is advancing across the US,
more rapidly at higher latitudes**

NEXRAD Reflectivity (dBz)

0341 UTC 28 Sep, 2022 (10:41 PM CDT)

