



Partners in Flight
Monitoring & Inventory
Working Group



Klamath Bird
Observatory



U.S. Forest Service
Redwood Sciences
Laboratory



Bureau of Land
Management



Cornell Laboratory of
Ornithology eBird

Newsletter of **LANDBIRD MIGRATION MONITORING NETWORK OF THE AMERICAS**

June 2005

Welcome to the newsletter of the **Landbird Migration Monitoring Network of the Americas (LaMMNA)**. LaMMNA works towards increasing cooperation and communication between individuals and organizations who monitor the migration of landbirds. One of our biggest goals is our working to develop a data archiving system that will protect data from being lost, as well as increase opportunities for large scale analyses that will further the conservation of migratory species and their habitats.

Our newsletters are designed to facilitate communication between members of the Network and keep them informed on Network activities. Many of you are already members of the Migration Monitoring Network through being registered as Banding Stations and Observatories, as listed in:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/topics/wildlife/birdmon/pif/mnstalst.shtml>. If you aren't listed, we invite you to become active members of the Network by filling out the brief application form at

http://www.klamathbird.org/lammna/Membership_Application_form_3-2005.doc which will put us in touch with you.

Please help us recruit new members by passing this information on to stations and organizations that are participating in migration monitoring projects and are not currently in our station list.

Organization of LaMMNA Network

The Network is likely to be organized along the lines of typical Partners in Flight (PIF) committees. The umbrella group for LaMMNA is the Monitoring and Inventory Working Group of PIF, working closely with the International Scientific Committee of PIF (see <http://www.PartnersInFlight.org> for more information). The meetings of LaMMNA will firm up the structure, but the power of PIF organizations is, at least in part, the lack of an 'organization', or a formal hierarchy. That is, any agency, organization, institution, or person in the Americas who wishes to make a contribution is welcomed to any PIF meeting. The meetings and products are consensus-driven, allowing all participants a voice in the programs. The various protocols, reports, and publications of PIF have reflected this desire to be inclusive. Functionally, it has been suggested that there be a "LaMMNA Council" made up of the financial, facility, and programmatic Sponsors, as well as the Members who have contributed data to the Network. We would hope that each Member organization appoint a representative to participate in a direct way to the Network, and report back to their organization.

This Council will help reach understanding of the methods for contributing data to the Network, accessing Network data bases, and analyses that are conducted and available on the web site that will host the Network.

LaMMNA Nodes and What They Will Do

The present plan is to obtain funding and cooperation for what we term 'Nodes'. There would be a minimum of 3-5 nodes, and perhaps as many as a dozen, where cooperators can send their contributions of data and observations where it would get personal attention, privacy standards applied, and the formatting or editing necessary to take the data into the Network. Processes and protocols are currently in the final stages of development and being tested at the Redwood Sciences Laboratory of the U.S. Forest Service, in cooperation with the Klamath Bird Observatory and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology.

Web- and Map-based Products

These are appealing and synergistic and will enhance the usefulness of LaMMNA to all. Users of an interactive web page would be able to call up summaries of data in tabular or graphic formats. Among the likely information that could be viewed are the (1) timing of movements of birds during migration (2) habitat preferences showing lags in movements that could indicate layovers, and (3) age-related differences in movements and layovers, with different strategies of different species. Hawk migrations have been the best examples of these latter movements. A power point show will be on the LaMMNA web site soon to illustrate some of the possible products that could be available.

Check out our Web Page!

The web page for the Landbird Migration Monitoring Network of the Americas (LaMMNA) is up and running, and is now housed at the Klamath Bird Observatory's web site, at <http://www.klamathbird.org/lammna/>. We hope that it will serve both as an outreach to the public and as a useful tool for Network members to get information on migration monitoring methods and resources.

Among the resources you can find there are links to our overall Network proposal, which outlines the purpose of the Network, an Application for Membership to LaMMNA, the banding data schema for data archiving, the Migration Monitoring Stations list, and links to migration monitoring publications and reports. We will also plan to update the page very regularly with progress reports on data archiving, upcoming meetings, and other information that will be useful to our members.

We would like your input for the LaMMNA web page. What resources would be useful to you? We will also be adding more resource links to the page, especially on-line publications. What sort of publications or informational links would you like to see here? Contact Linda Long at llong@fs.fed.us (707-825-2947) or USFS Redwood Sciences Laboratory, 1700 Bayview Drive, Arcata, California 95521 with your ideas.

Upcoming Meetings and Workshops

We are holding workshops on LaMMNA and methods for archiving data and plans for retrieval at these two upcoming national meetings (see below). At both these meetings, the agenda will include: (1) finalization of the structure of the LaMMNA Council; (2) presentations on eBird interfaces with LaMMNA; (3) choosing among forms of Nodes as to their operation and structure; (4) sources of funding for Members; and (5) making decisions on the structures of data schema.

- June 15-18: Cooper Ornithological Society Annual Meeting, Humboldt State University, Arcata, California. <http://www.cooper.org/> or <http://www.humboldt.edu/%7Eecosmeet/>
As part of this, we will have an organizational meeting on Friday, June 17, at 8 a.m. near the Vendors' Area at the South Lounge, in the University Center, adjacent to the plenary session, where those who wish to partake of both.
- August 23-27: American Ornithologists' Union Annual Meeting, University of California-Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, California. <http://www.aou.org/2005meeting/>