

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Program



Our Mission:
Conserving America's Birds

Our Superpowers:



Small but Mighty!



Grounded in
Science



Partnerships are
Foundational



Customer Service Oriented



Modernization & Efficiency
lead to better data,
decisions



MIGRATORY
BIRDS



Artificial Lighting at Night

What it means for bird conservation and
navigating a path forward

Jo Anna Lutmerding, Biologist

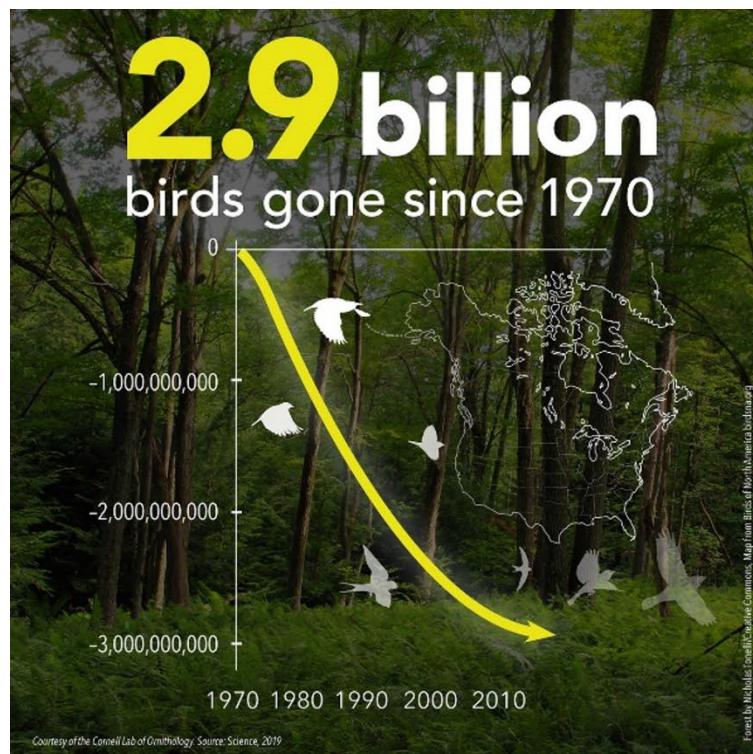


Migratory Bird Program – *Conserving America's Birds*



**What is your favorite memory of
looking at the stars?**

Recovering Three Billion Birds



Rosenberg et al. Science 2019





All bird species

North American
bird species

North American
migratory birds



All bird species

19%

Migratory

North American
bird species

70%

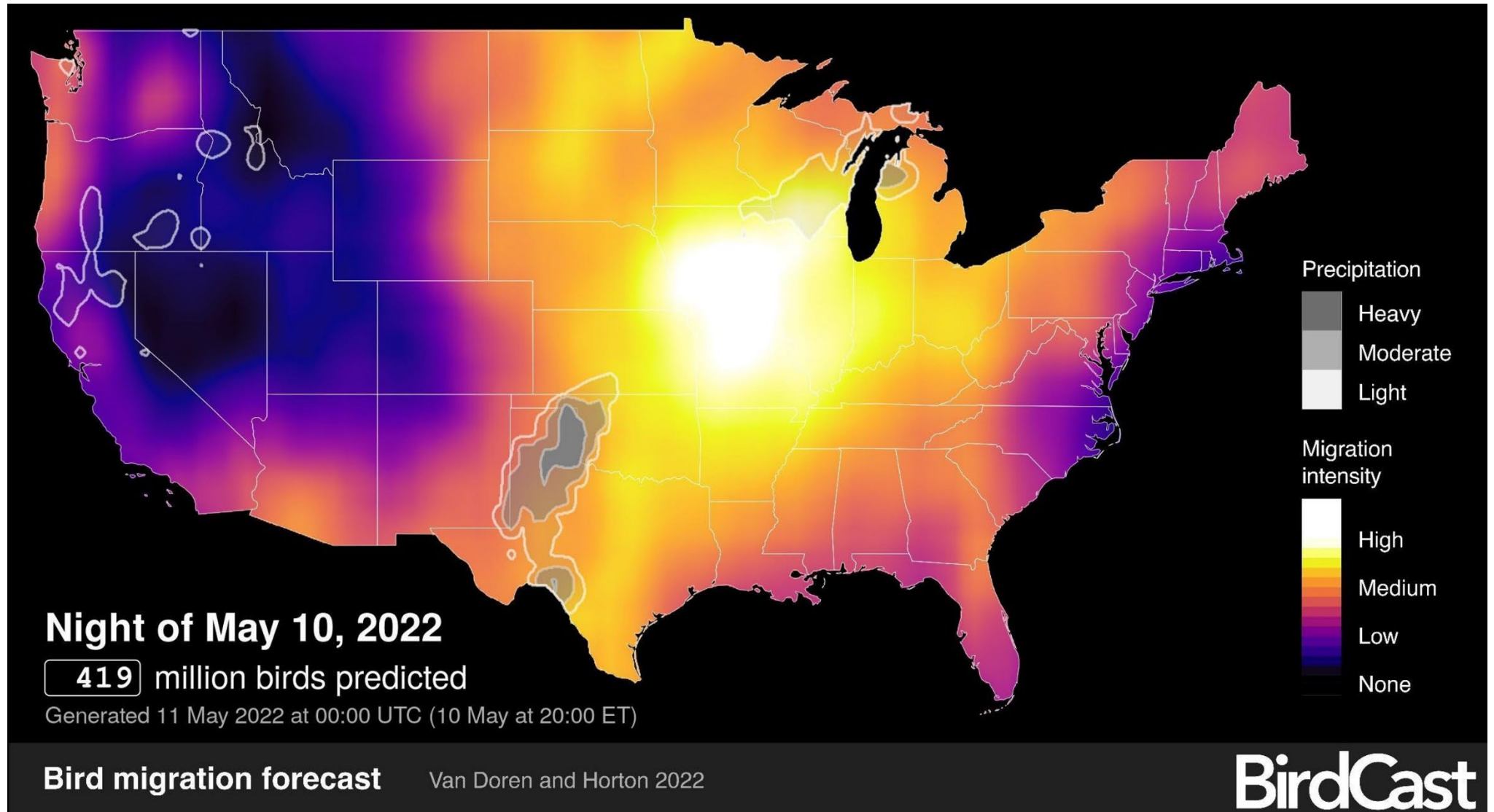
Migratory

North American
migratory birds

80%

Migrate at night

Migration Monitoring Tools and Data



Ecological Forecasting

Horton
2019

May 15
May 15



Ecological Forecasting

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May 15
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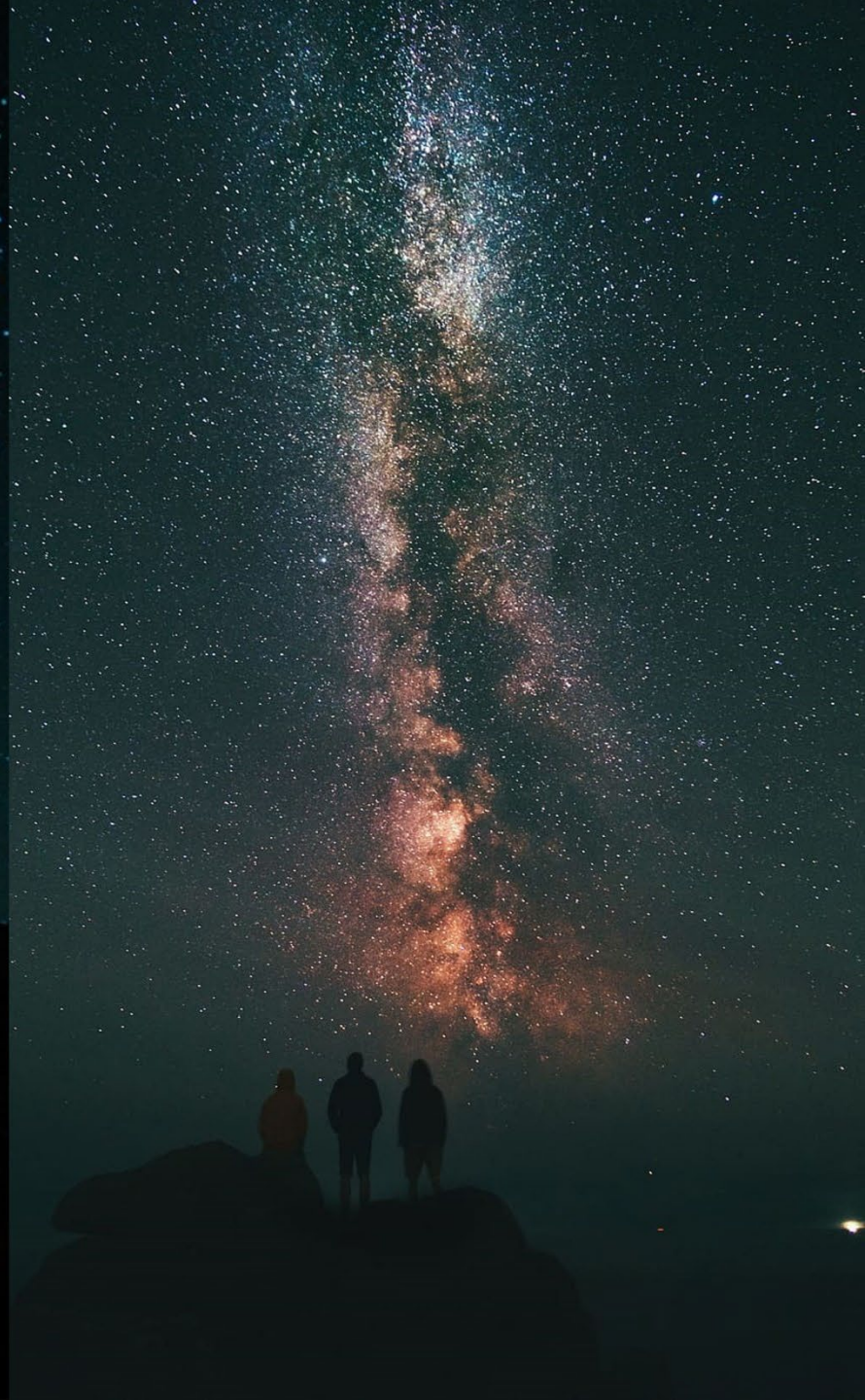


Ecological Forecasting

Horton
2019

May 15
May 15





WWW.RLROUSE.COM

The future is bright

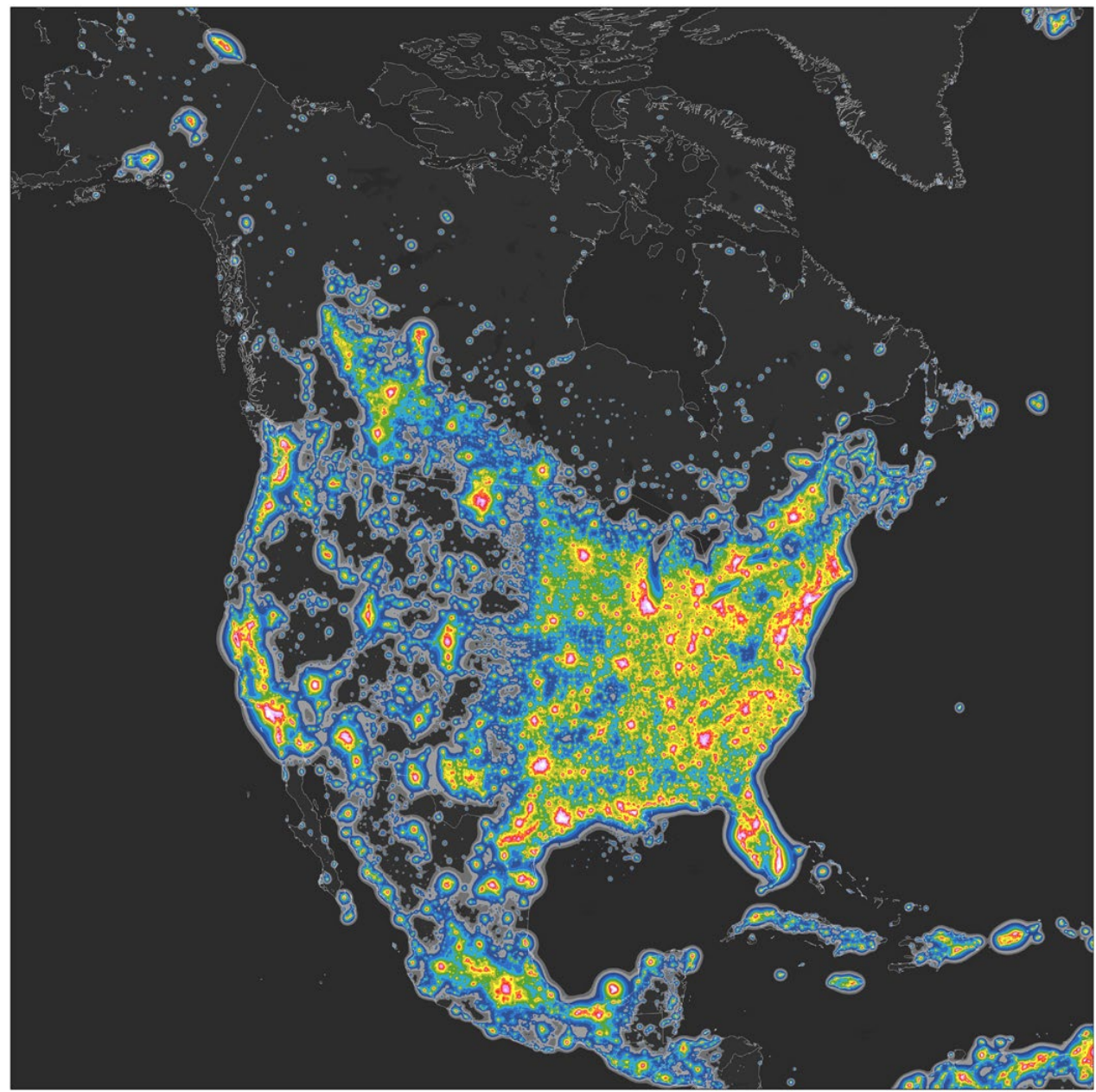


Protected Areas

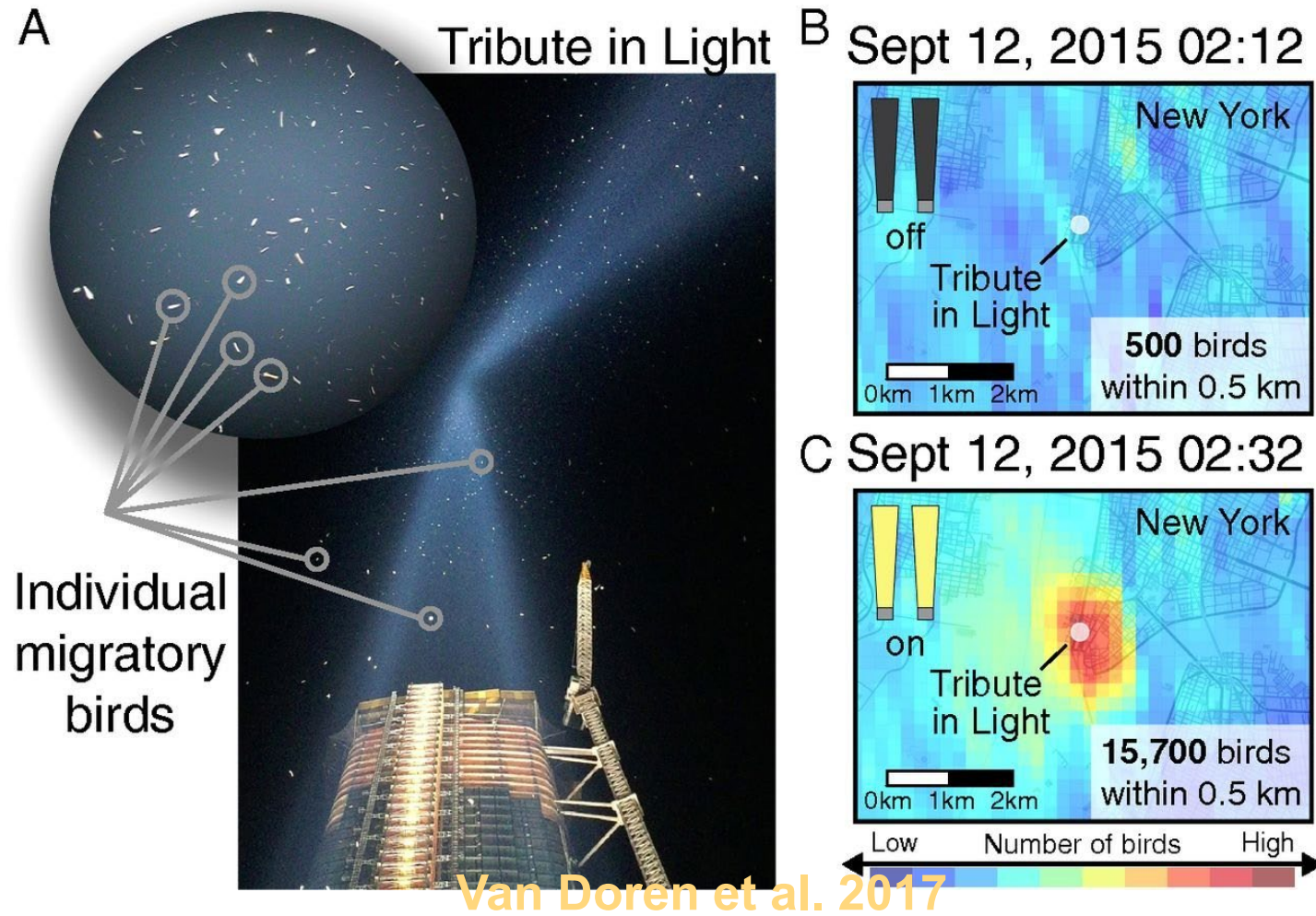
<1/3 Key Biodiversity Areas have
pristine skies globally

Almost ½ of the U.S. has light pollution

Nearly every National Park in the U.S.
has light pollution



Effects of ALAN on birds



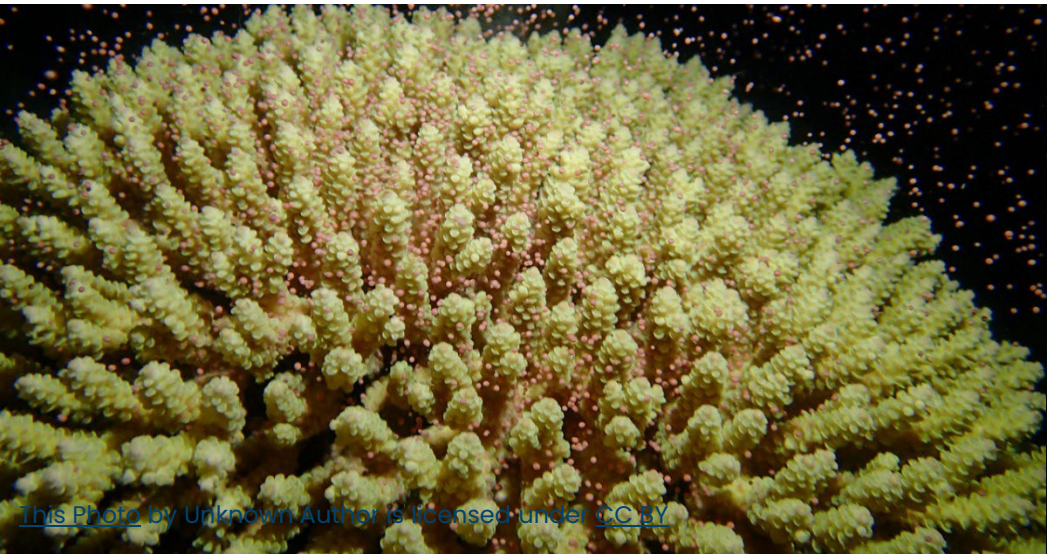
Glass collisions kill almost 1 billion birds per year

>99% of collisions at homes and low-rise buildings

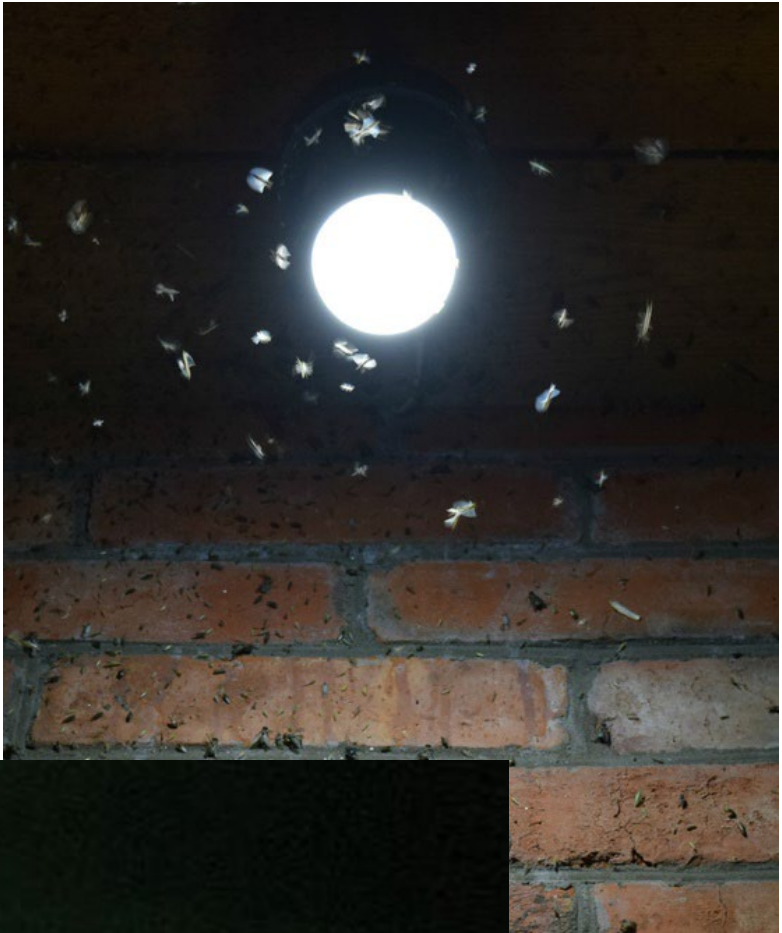




Effects of lighting on other wildlife



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY



Effects of Nighttime Lighting on People

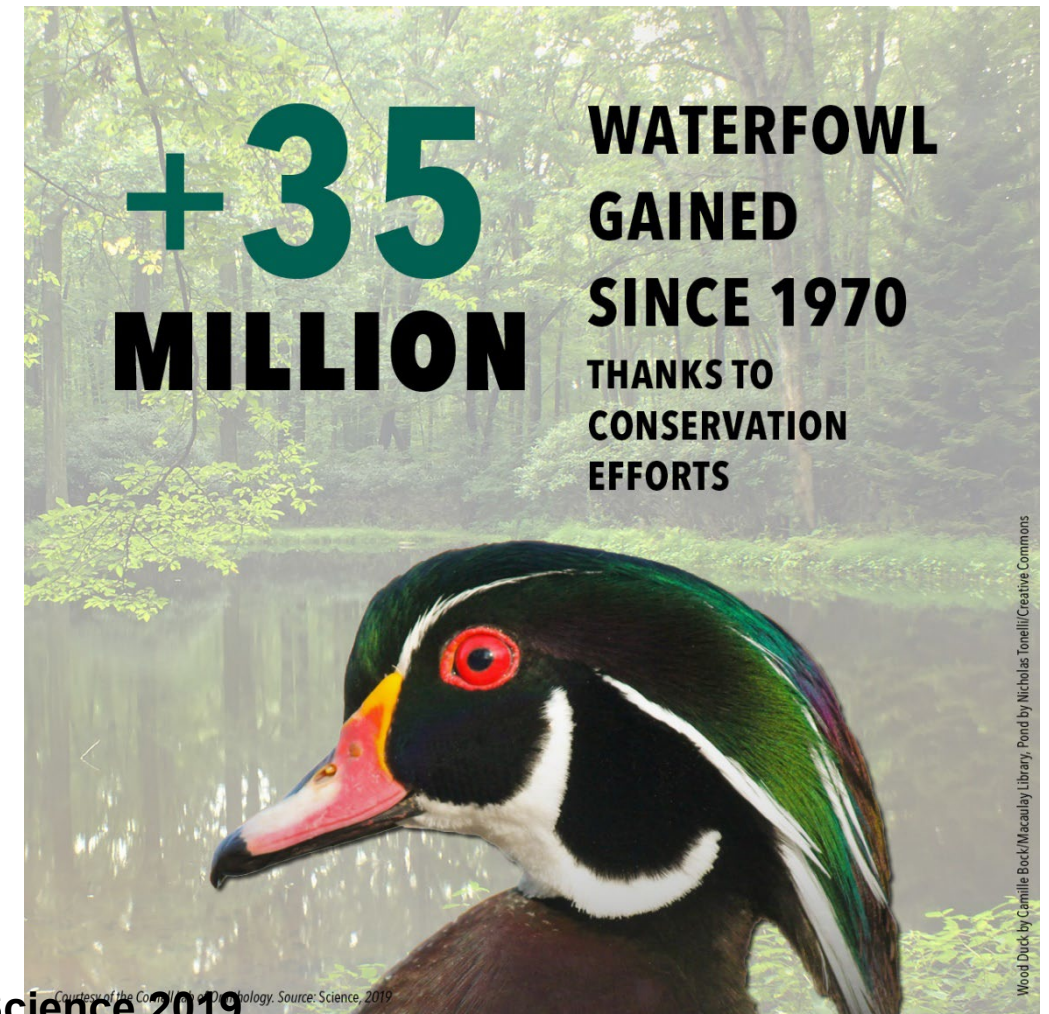
- Disrupted circadian rhythms
- Glare and reduced visibility
- False sense of security



- What aspects of this issue resonate with you?
- What is a question that comes to mind?



Reasons for Optimism



Rosenberg et al. Science 2019



Increasing concern and response across sectors



14 May and 8 October 2022



World Migratory Bird Day



www.worldmigratorybirdday.org

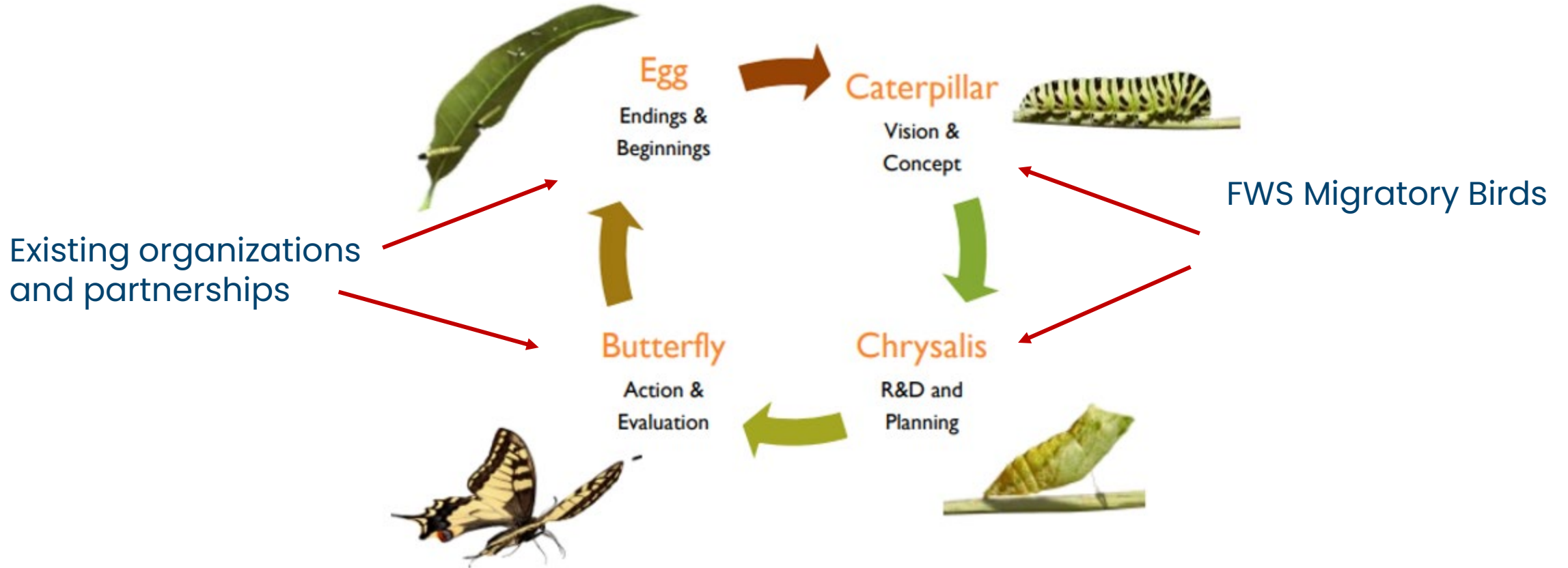


Why this issue is great to work on!

- A lot has been done
- It's something anyone can do
- Relatively very easy to fix
- Immediately effective
- Benefits for people and birds (and all wildlife)
- It's fascinating



Partnership Network Life Cycle



Why should the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service act?

Missions of Agency and Program

Delegated responsibilities:

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

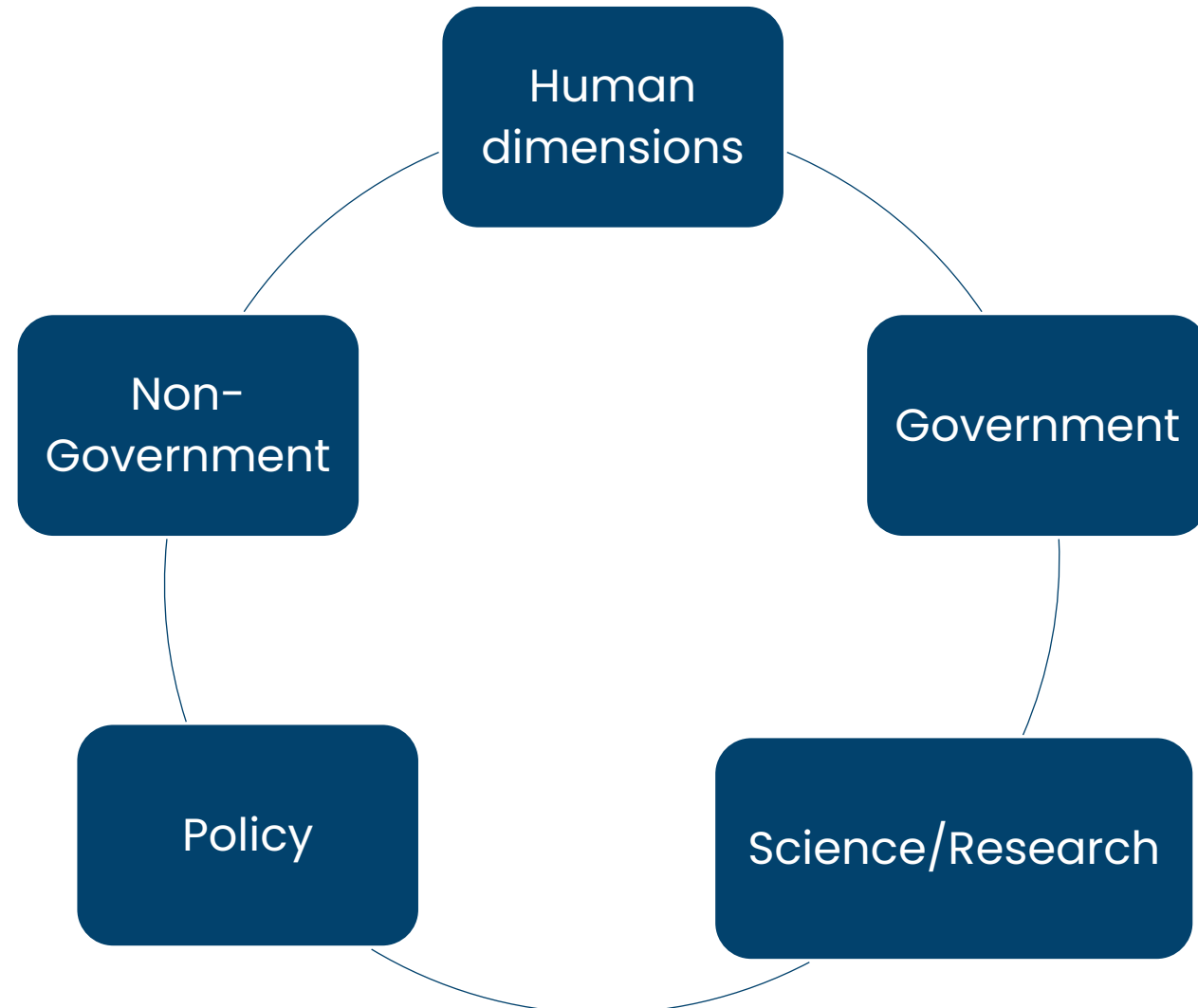
Endangered Species Act

Executive Order 13186

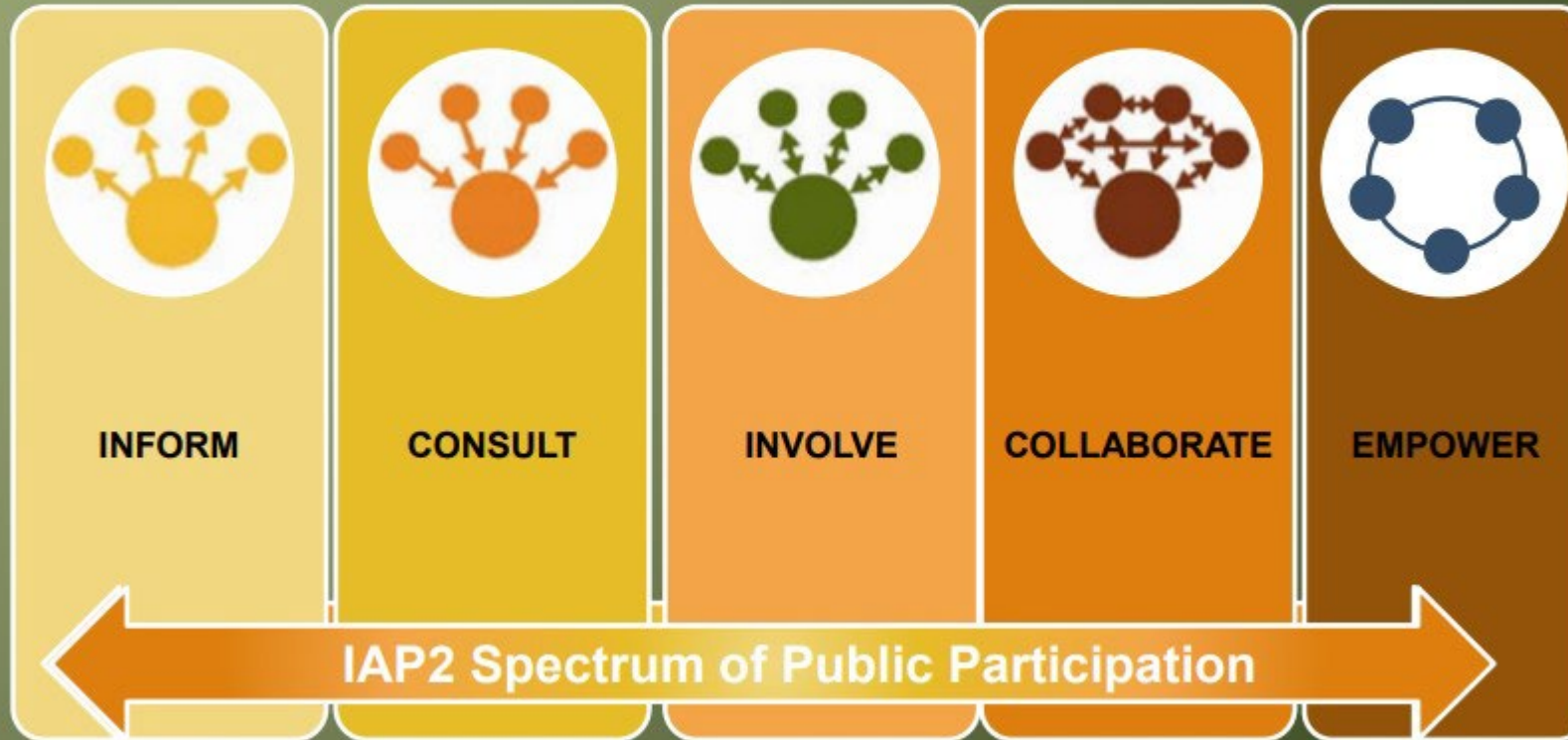


How should the USFWS approach this?

- Small team of biologists and social scientists:
- Research(ing) the issue
- Identifying sectors, outlets, and partners
- Created action plan, prioritized, and track



What level of participation are you seeking?



Priority actions

- Approaching internal and external long-standing partners
- Messaging and simple recommendations
- Developing outreach campaign
 - Survey of Lights Out groups
 - Video reels
 - Communication strategy



Where we(I) get stuck

- Research vs action?
- How are we value-added?
- Have we identified our niche?
- Invite ourselves to existing partnerships vs developing our own?
- Will success on this have any unintended consequences?
- What useful partners might we overlook?

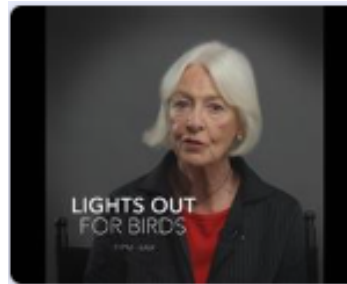


Thank you!

LOCAL NEWS

The Gateway Arch will go dark in May, here's why

The St. Louis skyline will look a little different at night throughout the month of May.



Jane Alexander - Lights Out for Birds - You... ✕

Our thanks to actor, author and bird advocate Jane Alexander for telling people about Lights Out during this...

www.youtube.com

