Habitat & Plant Choices in the Face of Climate Change

A Presentation by the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences



Cambridge Plant & Garden Club



Menotomy Bird Club Our Bird Populations... 40 years of change



A Presentation by the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences











In the years following 1896, Ellen Ernst and her gardener, Otto Andersen, transformed windswept farm land into a lush landscape flourishing with a profusion of flowers, shrubs and trees.





Ellen And Her Tea House

Designed after a tea house the Ernst visited on a tour through Japan. Many Asian plants were introduced, among them the Asiatic Bittersweet.





Fire on the Pine Hills 1ST May 1977



Long-Term Bird Migration Banding









Not what we meant to catch Silver-haired Bat

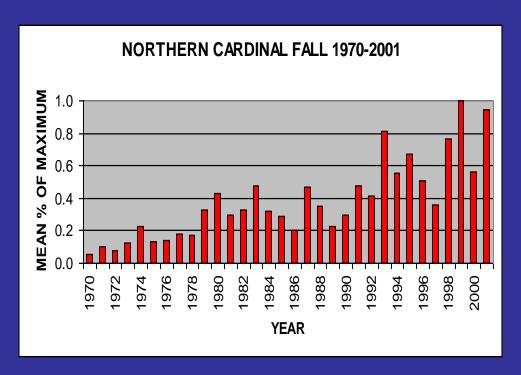


Spring Migration: 72 Species 1970 - 2001

- 50% of species show decreasing numbers.
- 5% of species show increasing numbers (Carolina Wren, Tufted Titmouse, Northern Cardinal, Orchard Oriole).
- Neotropical species are declining as well.

Northern Cardinal

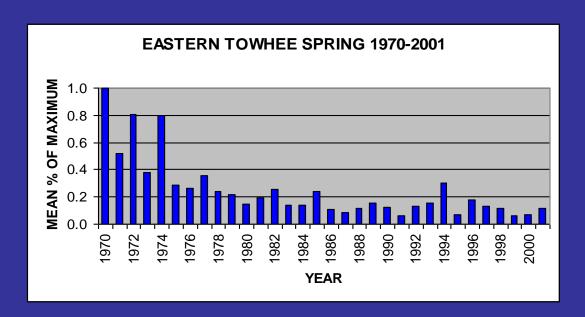
Trending upward





Eastern Towhee

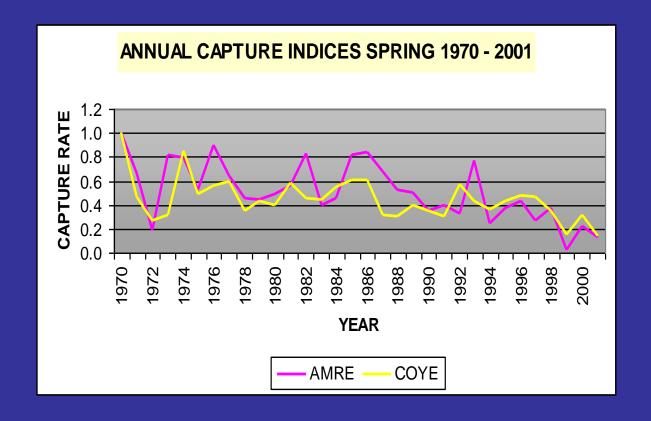
Trending <u>down</u>ward





Annual Capture Indices Are Declining

for many species

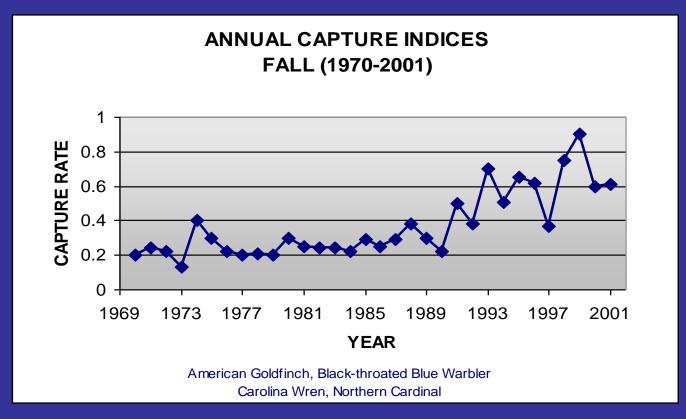






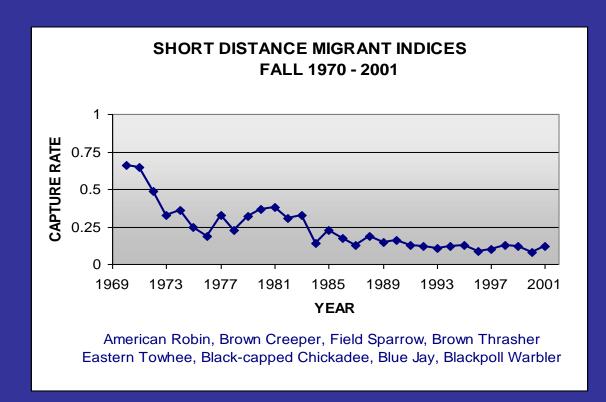
A Few Species Are Doing Well

Lloyd-Evans & Atwood. Wilson Bull. 2004



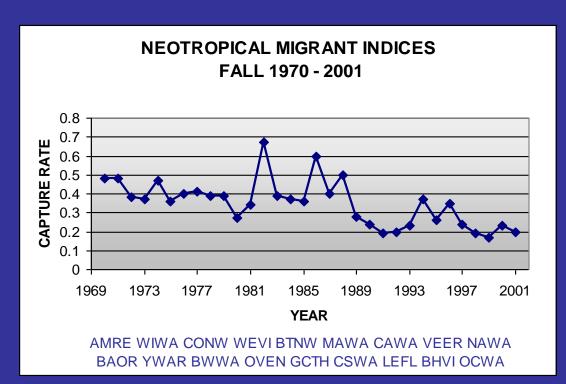


Short Distance Migrants Also Are Declining...





... As are Neotropicals

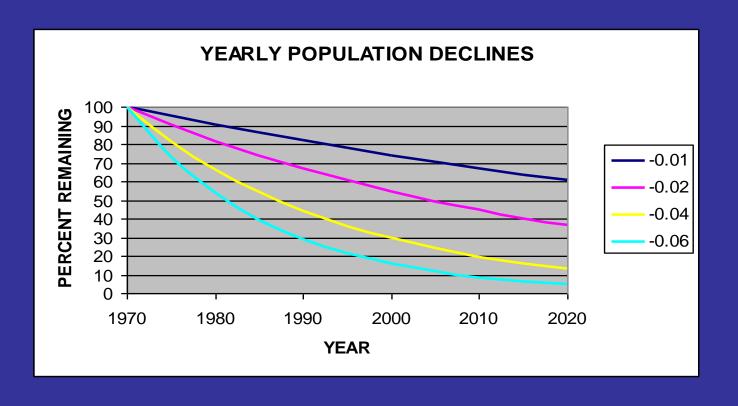




Theoretical Population Declines:

Small annual declines = a massive impact over time

How many North American species are extinct since 1800?



Extinct in N. America since 1800

Labrador Duck

Eskimo Curlew ?

Great Auk

Passenger Pigeon

Carolina Parakeet

Ivory-billed Woodpecker?

Bachman's Warbler

(Heath Hen) Gt. Prairie Chicken

(Dusky) Seaside Sparrow

ca. 1875

1976?

1841 (1844)

1899 (1914)

1904?

(1960's, 1980's)

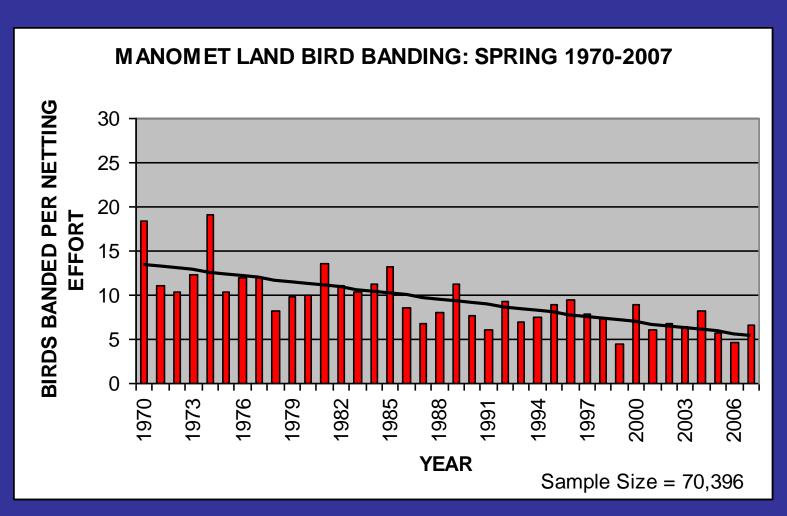
1962?

1932

1980 (1987)

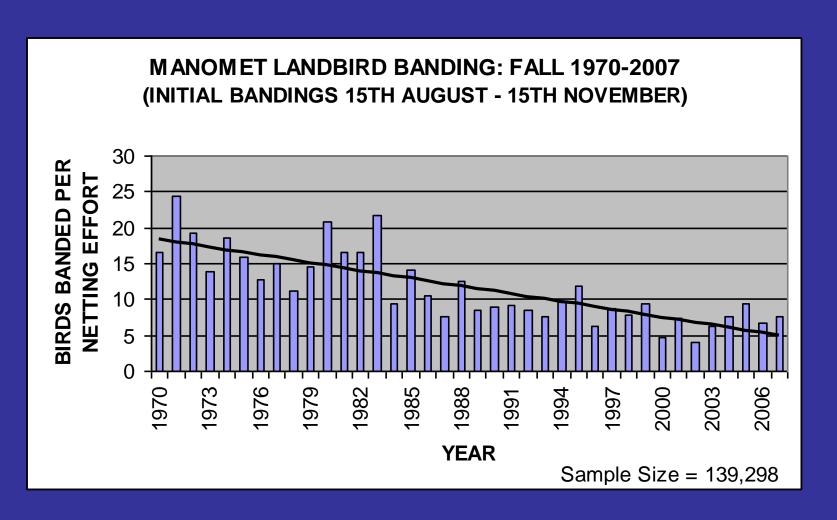
Effect of Population Decline on Bird Banding at Manomet

Spring 1970 - 2007

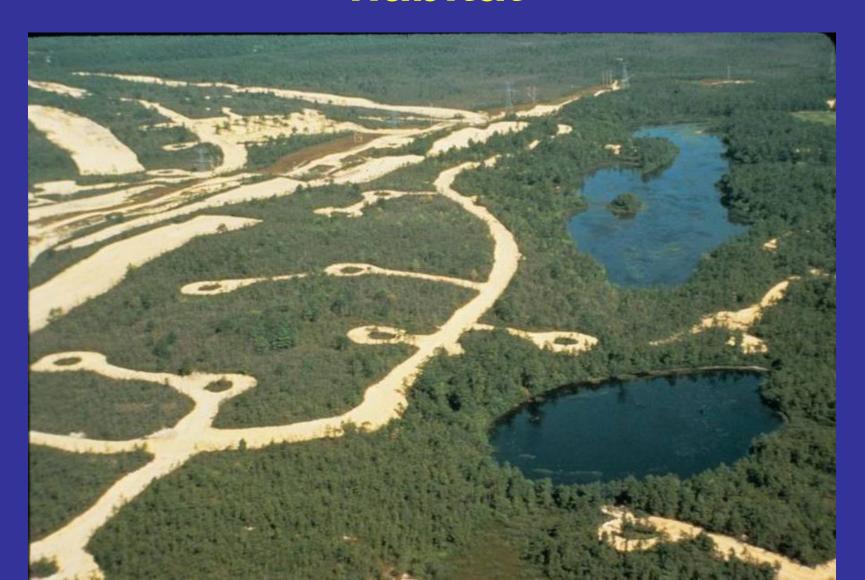


Effect of Population Decline on Bird Banding at Manomet

Fall 1970 - 2007



Risks to Pitch Pine / Scrub Oak habitat



Inexorable Development



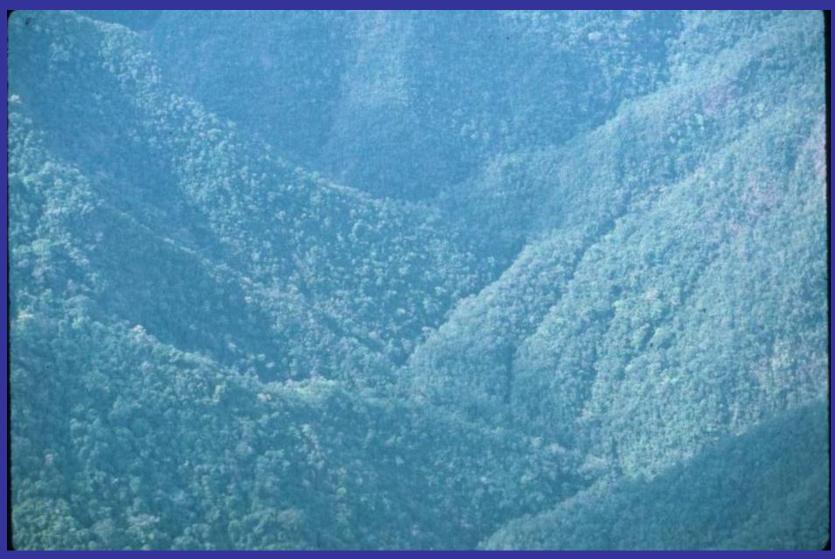
Causes of Migratory Songbird Population Declines

Citrus Farming

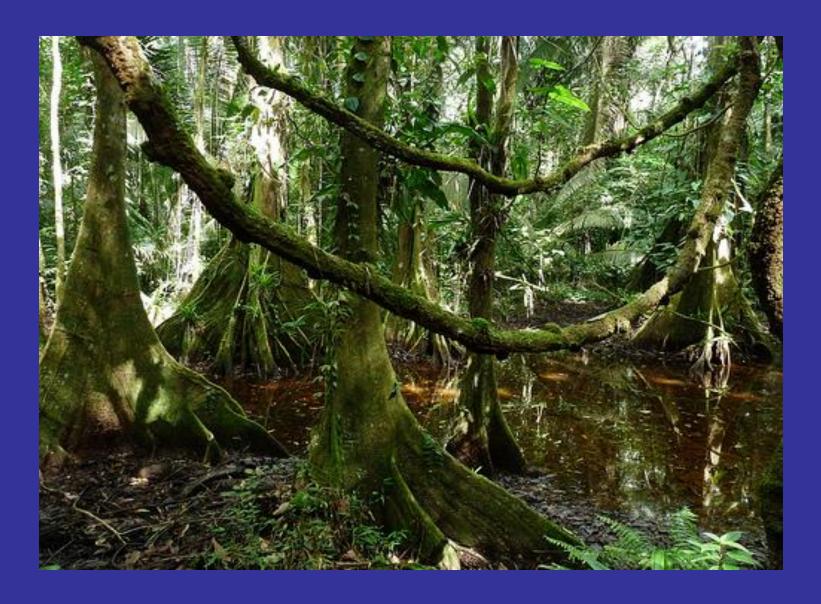
Development in Belize...



Rainforest in Bladen Branch, Belize



Belize Rainforest



Red-capped Mannikin



Hooded Warbler





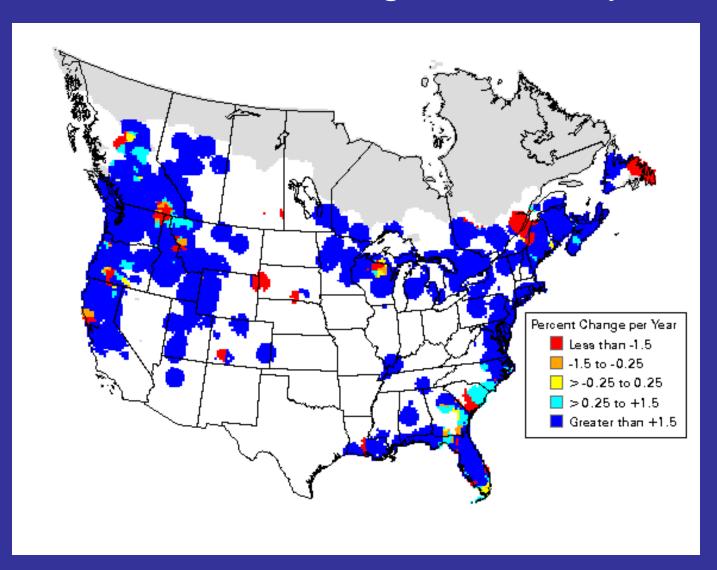
Winter Ranges of Significantly Declining Species

	%	Sig.	N
		Decline	
NE North Am.	33%	4	12
SE North Am.	54%	13	24
Cent. & S. Am.	70%	31	44
Trop. Forests	84%	16	19

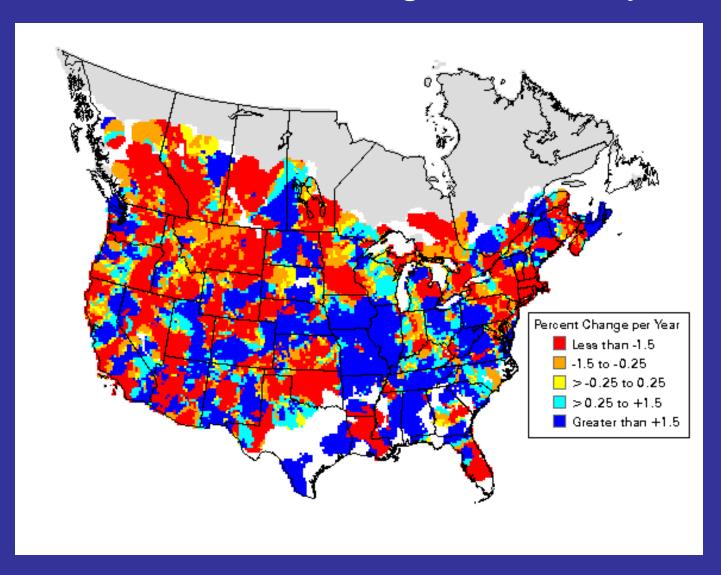
Increasing Non-passerines



Osprey 1966-2003 USGS Breeding Bird survey



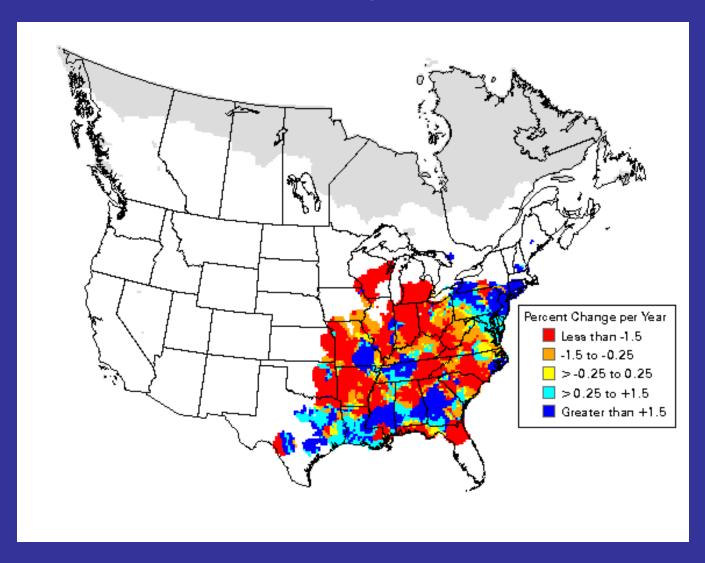
American Kestrel 1966-2003 USGS Breeding Bird survey



Increasing Passerines



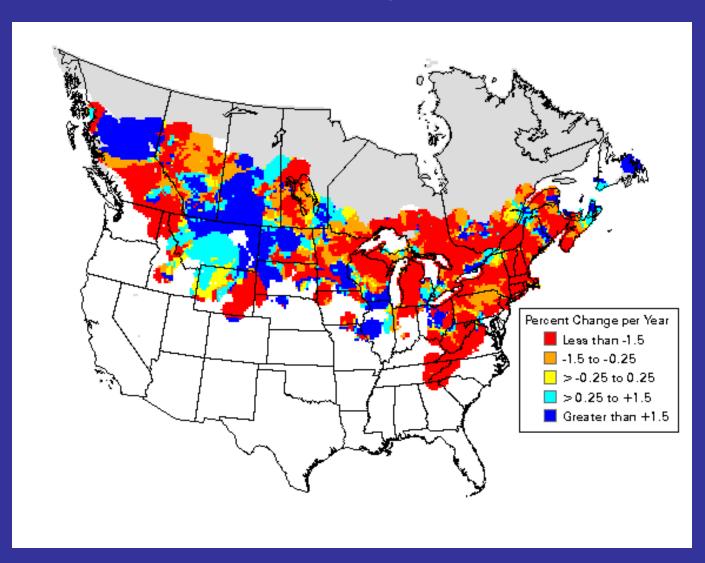
Acadian Flycatcher 1966-2003 USGS Breeding Bird survey



Decreasing Passerines



Least Flycatcher 1966-2003 USGS Breeding Bird survey



Shorebird Declines

- 48% of the world's shorebirds with known population trends are in decline, and only 16% increasing.
- 33 of North America's 72 taxa are in apparent or significant population decline, PUSA & LBDO may be increasing.





Migrating Shorebirds Concentrate



Arctic Alaska and Northwest Canada





Shrinking Arctic Ice – 1979-2008











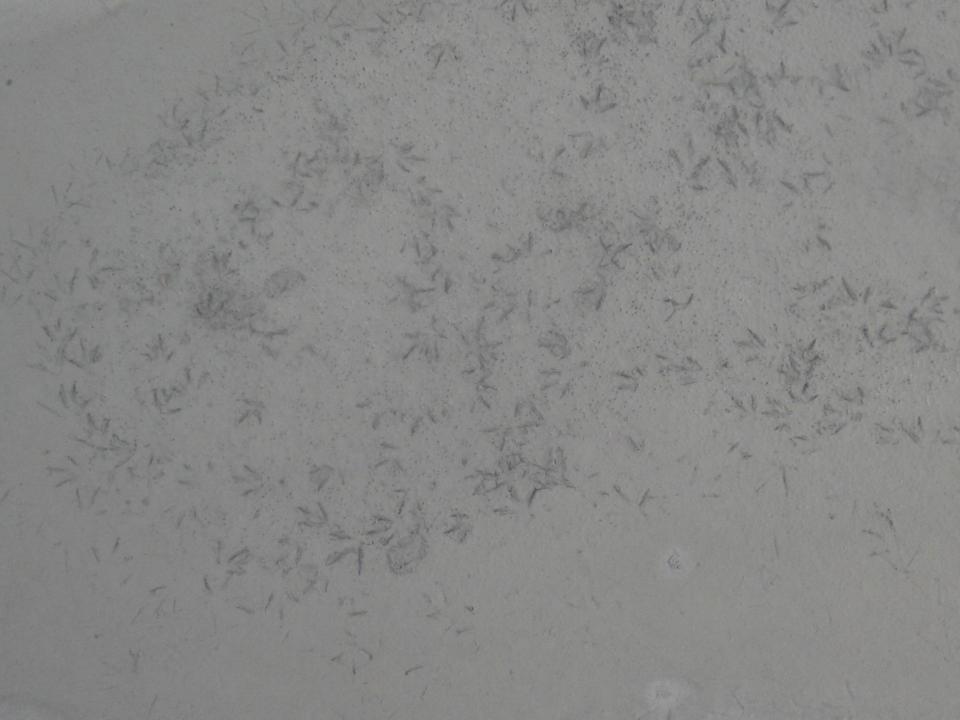
































Together we can make a difference!

- Protect breeding, wintering and migration stopover habitats.
- Support research on factors affecting bird populations.
- Make your back yard attractive to migrating songbirds.
- Education, preserve nature for your children, and for *their* children.

Sustainable Gardening Practices

- Right Plant- Right Place
- Disease Resistant Varieties
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- Go Organic Eliminate Chemicals
- Water Conservation –Rain Barrels Mulch Grass/Leaves To Fertilize
- Lawns Reduce, Replant
- MOSTLY NATIVE vs. Invasive

Manomet 2009/10

- Integrating New Energy and Wildlife
- Advancing Climate Change Adaptation-New England
- Promoting Sustainable Agriculture
- Using Forests for Carbon Offsets
- Conserving Wetlands
- Creating new "Markets" for natural systems
- Conserving Bird Populations and habitats

This is the most effective weapon in the fight to save nature

