

A PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF GOLDEN EAGLE MOVEMENTS IN ALASKA

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Alaska provides breeding habitat for many of North America's breeding Golden Eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*). However, little is known about the home range sizes, migration movements to and from the breeding grounds, survival, and causes of mortality of Golden Eagles in Alaska. To better understand their ecology and migration, in the first year of a three-year study, we attached solar powered satellite transmitters to adult (n = 10) and sub-adult (n = 5) Golden Eagles captured in Alaska. We captured eagles during spring migration in south-central Alaska in 2014. Adult eagles established home ranges near the capture site in south-central Alaska, and in the western Alaska Mountain Range. Sub-adults stayed in south-central Alaska or traveled to western Alaska or the Kenai Peninsula through spring and early summer. Preliminary results suggest home range diameter sizes for breeding individuals ranged from 7–22 km with a mean of 11.7 km; sub-adult movements included much larger areas. Understanding breeding and non-breeding season movements by this large population is critical to conservation and management of Golden Eagles.

2014 Alaska Bird Conference Schedule

Registration – Centennial Hall Lobby

(All day Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday until noon)

Tuesday, December 9 (Pre-conference meetings)

- 8:30-11:30 Alaska Shorebird Group Meeting (Centennial Hall - Egan Room)
- 1:30-5:15 Boreal Partners in Flight with Alaska Raptor Group (Agenda, page 8) - (Centennial Hall - Egan Room)
- 6:30-8:30 **WELCOME RECEPTION** (Baranof Hotel - Gastineau Room)

Wednesday, December 10

- 7:45-8:30 Continental Breakfast (Centennial Hall Lobby)
- 8:30-8:45 **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Centennial Hall Ballroom)

Climate Change (Chair: Audrey Taylor)

- 8:45-9:00 *No Additional Potential for Adaptation to Climate Change? A Hypothesis Worth Testing for Arctic Ecosystems (John Pearce)*
- 9:00-9:15 *Test of Ecological Mismatches in an Arctic Network (*Eunbi Kwon, David Lank, Richard Lanctot, Stephen Brown, and Brett Sandercock)*
- 9:15-9:30 *Local (S. Yukon) and Distribution-Wide Investigation into Declines of Two Aerial Insectivores; Olive-sided Flycatcher (Contopus cooperi) and Western Wood-Pewee (C. sordidulus), Utilizing both Habitat and Climate Covariates (*Tara Stehelin and Fiona Schmiegelow)*
- 9:30-9:45 *Long-Term Changes in Boreal Habitats of the Yukon Flats: Does it Matter for Waterbirds? (*Tyler Lewis, Mark Lindberg, and Joel Schmutz)*
- 9:45-10:00 *Increasing Variability of Ecological Response by Beringian Endemic Seabirds to Rapid Environmental Change (*McKenna Hanson, Veronica Padula, Naomi Bargmann, and Douglas Causey)*
- 10:00-10:30 **BREAK** (snacks in lobby)

Breeding Ecology (Chair: Abby Powell)

- 10:30-10:45 *The Spatial Pattern of Nest Site Selection: Do Hudsonian Godwits Nest in Risky Areas? (*Rose Swift, Nathan Senner, and Amanda Rodewald)*
- 10:45-11:00 *Nesting Whimbrels: Rush to Flush (*Christopher Harwood and Abby Powell)*
- 11:00-11:15 *Nest-Site Selection by American and Pacific Golden-Plovers (*Kelly Overduijn, Colleen Handel, and Abby Powell)*
- 11:15-11:30 *Long-term Variation in Timing of Arrival of Shorebirds to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska (Craig Ely, Brian McCaffery, and Robert Gill)*

- 11:30-11:45 *Effects of Bill Deformities on Parental Care in Black-capped Chickadees* (**Rachel Richardson** and Colleen Handel)
- 11:45-12:00 *Reproductive Success of Smith's Longspurs in Alaska's Brooks Range* (***Heather Craig**, Steve Kendall, and Abby Powell)
- 12:00-1:30 **LUNCH** (on your own)

Disease/Contaminants (Chair: Debbie Nigro)

- 1:30-1:45 *Molecular Assessment of Leucocytozoon Infections in Alaskan Waterfowl* (***Matthew Smith**, Joel Schmutz, Chloe Apelgren, and Andrew Ramey)
- 1:45-2:00 *Genetic Diversity and Host Specificity Varies Across Three Genera of Blood Parasites in Ducks of the Pacific Americas Flyway* (Andrew Reeves, ***Matthew Smith**, Brandt Meixell, Joseph Fleskes, and Andrew Ramey)
- 2:00-2:15 *Characteristics and Fitness Consequences of Blood Parasite and Avian Influenza Infections and Co-Infections in Alaskan Waterfowl* (**Brandt Meixell**, Andrew Ramey, Matthew Smith, Todd Arnold, Mark Lindberg, and Jonathan Runstadler)
- 2:15-2:30 *The Impacts of Plastic Marine Debris on Seabirds from the Western Aleutian Islands: Detection of Phthalates in Muscle and Embryonic Tissues* (***Veronica Padula**, Sydney Stewart, and Douglas Causey)
- 2:30-3:00 TBA
- 3:00-3:30 **BREAK** (snacks in lobby)

Foraging Ecology (Chair: Debbie Nigro)

- 3:30-3:45 *The Delta Diner: Assessing Eastern Beaufort Sea Deltas as Fall Stopover Sites for Semipalmated Sandpipers* (***Roy Churchwell**, Abby Powell, Steve Kendall, and Stephen Brown)
- 3:45-4:00 *Environmental and Ecophysiological Constraints on the Winter Distribution of Rock Sandpipers in Upper Cook Inlet, Alaska* (**Daniel Ruthrauff**, Anne Dekinga, Robert Gill, and Theunis Piersma)
- 4:00-4:15 *Experimental Evidence that Ptarmigan Regulate Willow Bud Production to their own Advantage* (***Katie Christie** and Roger Ruess)
- 4:15-4:30 *Are Prey Remains Accurate Indicators of Chick Diet? Implications for Long-term Monitoring of Black Oystercatchers* (***Brian Robinson**, Abby Powell, Laura Phillips, and Heather Coletti)
- 4:30-4:45 *Postnatal Growth and Energetics of Red-throated Loons* (**Daniel Rizzolo**, Joel Schmutz, and John Speakman)
- 4:45-5:00 *Fish Flying in the Forest: The Influence of Salmon on Songbirds* (***Marlene Wagner** and John Reynolds)
- 5:00-8:00 **POSTER SESSION** (Centennial Hall - Ballroom 1)

Thursday, December 11

7:45-8:30 **Continental Breakfast** (Centennial Hall Lobby)

8:30-8:45 **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Centennial Hall Ballroom)

Movement Ecology (Chair: Abby Powell)

8:45-9:00 *Migratory Connectivity of Buff-breasted Sandpipers* (**Richard Lanctot**, Joaquin Aldabe, Juliana Bosi de Almeida, Gabriel Castresana, Stephen Brown, Sarah Saalfeld, and Stephen Yezerinac)

9:00-9:15 *Determining Migratory Connectivity for Semipalmated Sandpipers* (**Stephen Brown**, David Mizrahi, Megan Boldenow, Rebecca Bentzen, Marie-Andrée Giroux, Eunbi Kwon, David Lank, Nicolas Lecomte, Joe Liebezeit, Vanessa Loverti, Ron Porter, Jennie Rausch, Brett Sandercock, Paul Smith, Emily Weiser, Stephen Yezerinac, and Richard Lanctot)

9:15-9:30 *Revealing the Migratory Path and Wintering Area of Olive-sided Flycatchers: First Results for Alaska* (**Julie Hagelin**, James Johnson, Steven Matsuoka, Lucas DeCicco, and Nicholas Hajdukovich)

9:30-9:45 *Annual Movement Patterns of Bald Eagles in Southeast Alaska* (***Rachel Wheat** and Stephen Lewis)

9:45-10:00 *Aleutian Tern Interseasonal Movements and Non-Breeding Locations* (**Michael Goldstein**, Sanjay Pyare, David Duffy, Susan Oehlers, Nathaniel Catterson, and Jeffrey Frederick)

10:00-10:30 **BREAK** (snacks in lobby)

Populations and Distribution (Chair: Stephen Lewis)

10:30-10:45 *Hierarchical Analysis of Breeding Bird Survey Data from Roadside and Remote Areas to Estimate Population Trends in Alaska* (**Colleen Handel**, Courtney Amundson, John Sauer, and Steven Matsuoka)

10:45-11:00 *How Much Effort Is Enough? A Power Analysis of the Alaska Landbird Monitoring Survey* (**Courtney Amundson** and Colleen Handel)

11:00-11:15 *Striking Gold in the Eastern Alaska Range: Results of Recent Prospecting Trips* (**Carol McIntyre**, Stephen Lewis, and Ray Hander)

11:15-11:30 *The New Gold Rush: Golden Eagles Studies* (**Stephen Lewis** and Carol McIntyre)

11:30-11:45 *A Review: The History and Effects of Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) Range Expansion* (**Samantha Wilson**)

11:45-12:00 *Occupancy of Nocturnal Owls in Cordova, Alaska* (Jillian Jablonski and **Melissa Gabrielson**)

12:00-1:30 **LUNCH** (on your own)

Populations and Distribution (Chair: Stephen Lewis)

1:30-1:45 *Peregrine Falcons of the Lost Coast: Clarifying Subspecies along the Northern Gulf of Alaska* (**Stephen Lewis** and Michelle Kissling)

1:45-2:00 *Bald Eagle, Osprey, and Other Raptor Stick Nest Surveys on Koyukuk/Nowitna NWR, Northwest Interior Alaska, 2008-2014* (**Brad Scotton**, Jenny Bryant, and Aimee Rockhill)

- 2:00-2:15 *Eagles and Moose and Bears ... Oh My: Monitoring and Mitigating Potential Impacts of Highways on Bald Eagles, Chilkat River, Alaska* (**John Shook**, Robert Ritchie, Alex Prichard, and Sally Anderson)
- 2:15-2:30 *Habitat Use and Population Status of Yellow-billed and Pacific Loons in Western Alaska* (Joshua Schmidt, **Melanie Flamme**, and Johann Walker)
- 2:30-2:45 *Habitat Associations of the Seabird Community in the Northeastern Chukchi Sea* (**Adrian Gall**, Tawna Morgan, and Robert Day)
- 2:45-3:15 **BREAK** (snacks in lobby)

Conservation (Chair: John Pearce)

- 3:15-3:30 *Subsistence Harvest of Sea Ducks in Alaska* (**Liliana Naves**)
- 3:30-3:45 *Subsistence Bird Harvest on Saint Lawrence Island, Alaska: Addressing Yellow-billed Loon Conservation Concern* (**Liliana Naves** and Tamara Zeller)
- 3:45-4:00 *Mapping Important Areas for Seabirds: How to Draw the Boundary Line* (**Melanie Smith** and Nathan Walker)
- 4:00-4:15 *Identifying Important Bird Areas for Waterfowl in Interior and Coastal Alaska Using Aerial Survey Data* (**Nathan Walker** and Melanie Smith)
- 4:15-4:30 *Evaluating and Developing Criteria for Human-use Closures to Protect Ground-nesting Marine Birds* (**Tania Lewis**, Lisa Etherington, and Christopher Behnke)
- 4:30-4:45 *Drivers of Adult Survival in Arctic-breeding Shorebirds: Insights from Coordinated Research* (**Emily Weiser**, Brett Sandercock, Stephen Brown, Richard Lanctot, and the Arctic Shorebird Demographics Network)
- 4:45-5:00 *A Waterbird Crisis of Global Proportions: The Filling in of the Yellow Sea and Implications for Alaskan Birds* (**Nils Warnock**)
- 5:30-6:30 **Reception**, no-host bar and appetizers (Centennial Hall - Ballroom 1)
- 6:30-8:00 **Banquet** (Centennial Hall - Ballroom 1)
- 8:00-9:00 **Keynote speaker**, Gerrit Vyn on “Capturing the Lives of Beringian Birds” (Centennial Hall - Ballroom 2)
- 9:00-10:00 **Bird Jeopardy** (Centennial Hall - Ballroom 1)

*Denotes student presenter.

Bold name denotes presenter.

Poster Session

Wednesday, December 10

5-8 pm (no-host bar and hors d'oeuvres), Centennial Hall, Ballroom 1

#	AUTHORS	POSTER TITLE
1	Melanie Smith and Nathan Walker	<i>A New Map of Important Bird Areas in Alaska</i>
2	Deborah Rudis and Gray Pendleton	<i>Twenty-five Years of Juneau's Breeding Bird Survey Results</i>
3	Anna Anderson , Bob Platte, Heather Wilson, and Julian Fischer	<i>Continually Counting: An Overview of Alaska's Aerial Waterfowl Survey Program</i>
4	Audrey Taylor , Jeremy Mizel, and Stacia Backensto	<i>Aerial Inventory of Staging Shorebirds on the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve Coastline</i>
5	Courtney Amundson , Caroline Van Hemert, and Colleen Handel	<i>Abundance, Population Trends and Habitat Associations of Birds in Tongass National Forest, Alaska</i>
6	* Graham Frye , Mark Lindberg, and Richard Merizon	<i>Temporal Variation in Willow Ptarmigan Detectability: Implications for Research and Management</i>
7	Audrey Taylor , Mary Anne Bishop, and Kristine Sowl	<i>Black Turnstone: Evidence for a Population Decline or Shifting Migration Patterns?</i>
8	Timothy Bowman and John Hodges	<i>Training Tools for Aerial Observers</i>
9	* Sarah Tanedo and Tuula Hollmén	<i>Refining Remote Observation: Techniques of Monitoring Black-legged Kittiwakes (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>) in Resurrection Bay in the Northern Gulf of Alaska</i>
10	Emily Weiser , Brett Sandercock, Rebecca Bentzen, Joël Bêty, Megan Boldenow, Stephen Brown, Bruce Casler, Willow English, River Gates, Marie-Andrée Giroux, Eunbi Kwon, David Lank, Joe Liebezeit, Jean-Francois Lamarre, Richard Lanctot, Nicolas Lecomte, Vanessa Loverti, Laura McKinnon, David Mizrahi, Erica Nol, Ron Porter, Jennie Rausch, Paul Smith, and Stephen Yezerinac	<i>Effects of Geolocators on Return Rates in Arctic-breeding Shorebirds</i>
11	Sadie Ulman , Tuula Hollmén, January Frost, Manfred Enstipp, Russel Andrews, Charles Frost, and Pamela Tuomi	<i>Testing a New Tape-based External Transmitter Attachment Technique for Sea Ducks Using Captive Long-tailed Ducks During Winter</i>
12	Christopher Barger , Travis Booms, Stephen Lewis, and Carol McIntyre	<i>A Preliminary Analysis of Golden Eagle Movements in Alaska</i>
13	* Joseph Eisaguirre , Travis Booms, Philip Schempf, and Stephen Lewis	<i>Gyrfalcon Home Ranges and Movements on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska</i>
14	* Adam DuBour , Kirsty Gurney, and Mark Lindberg	<i>Inferring Dietary Specialization of Lesser Scaup Ducklings Using Bayesian Stable Isotope Mixing Models</i>
15	* Joseph Eisaguirre , Travis Booms, and Brian Linkhart	<i>Diet of Golden Eagles on the Seward Peninsula, Alaska: Preliminary Findings</i>
16	* Timothy Spivey , Mark Lindberg, Brandt Meixell, Johnathan Runstadler, David Stallknecht, and Andrew Ramey	<i>Assessment of Temporal Variation in the Influenza A Virus Dynamics of High-Latitude Wintering Mallards (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)</i>
17	Michelle Kissling and Stephen Lewis	<i>Nesting Activity of Kittlitz's Murrelets in Northwestern Alaska</i>
18	Krista Roessingh and Ruth Joy	<i>Nesting Habitat and Diet Studies of Sandhill Cranes (<i>Grus canadensis</i>) from the Central and North Coast of British Columbia</i>
19	Melissa Gabrielson	<i>Artificial Nest Island Program for Dusky Canada Geese on the Copper River Delta, Alaska</i>
20	Denny Zwiefelhofer , John Crye, and Robin Corcoran	<i>Kodiak Island Cooperative Barrow's Goldeneye Nest Box Project</i>
21	* Lindsay Hermanns , McKenna Hanson, Audrey Taylor, and Beth Peluso	<i>Birds 'N' Bogs: A Citizen Science Approach to Monitoring Declining Boreal Bird Species</i>
22	Stacia Backensto , Melanie Flamme, Martin Robards, Ann Mayo-Kiely, Rosey Robards, and Debora Nigro	<i>Connecting Youth to Yellow-billed Loon Conservation through Videography</i>

*Denotes student presenter.

Bold name denotes presenter.

Agenda for Boreal Partners in Flight and Alaska Raptor Group

9 December 2014

Juneau, AK

Where: Centennial Hall, Egan room, (101 Egan Dr. Juneau, AK)

Time: 1:30–5:15

Beverages provided.

Agenda topics:

1:30–1:50	Welcome, Overview & Introductions	All
1:50–2:45	Alaska Raptor Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of 2014 Activities and Elections • ARG Metadata Database (1:55-2:05) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ BPIF Discussion (Action Item 7): Could ARG's online system be adapted to suit BPIF's annual project report? (2:05-2:15) • Species Action Plan (STOOP!) break-out session (2:15-2:45)—all BPIF membership invited 	Travis Booms, ADFG Chris Barger, ADFG Steve Lewis, USFWS
2:45–3:00	Break	
3:00–3:15	Alaska Landbird Plan v. 2.0	Colleen Handel, USGS
3:15–4:00	State Wildlife Action Plan Revision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview (3:15-3:30) • Break-out groups by BCR (3:30-4:00) 	Matt Kirchhoff, ADFG
4:00–4:15	Break	
	Updates on 2013 BPIF Action Items	
4:15–4:30	Aerial Insectivores (Action Items 1-3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen Science + recent swallow efforts in AK • Alaska Songbird Institute (ASI) update 	Audrey Taylor, UAA April Harding-Scurr, ASI
4:30-4:40	Survey and Monitoring (Action Items 4-6, 9) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALMS Peer review & Participation • BPIF Website 	Colleen Handel USGS Steve Matsuoka USFWS
4:40-4:50	Increasing Connections (Action 10-11) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada-BPIF connections 	Hilary Cooke, WCS Canada
4:50-5:00	Other BPIF business (Action 8) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPIF Elections: BCR coordinators, 3rd Exec. committee secretary, new co-chair 	All
5:00–5:15	Closing remarks	
6:30-8:30p	ABC Welcome Reception Where: Baranof Hotel, Gastineau Suite, 9 th Floor Appetizers and complimentary drink for ABC participants	