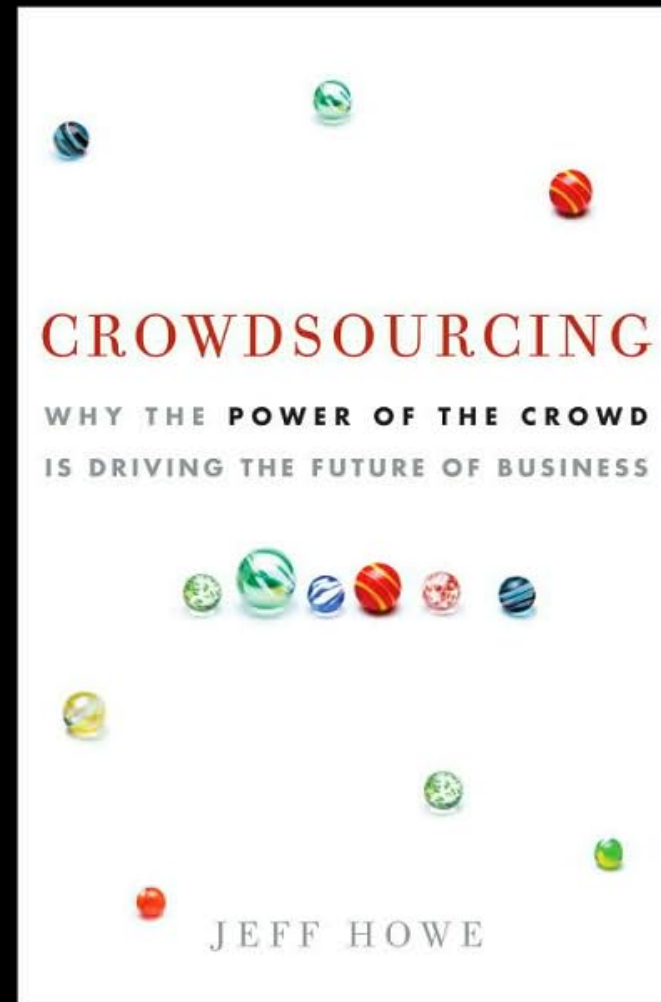


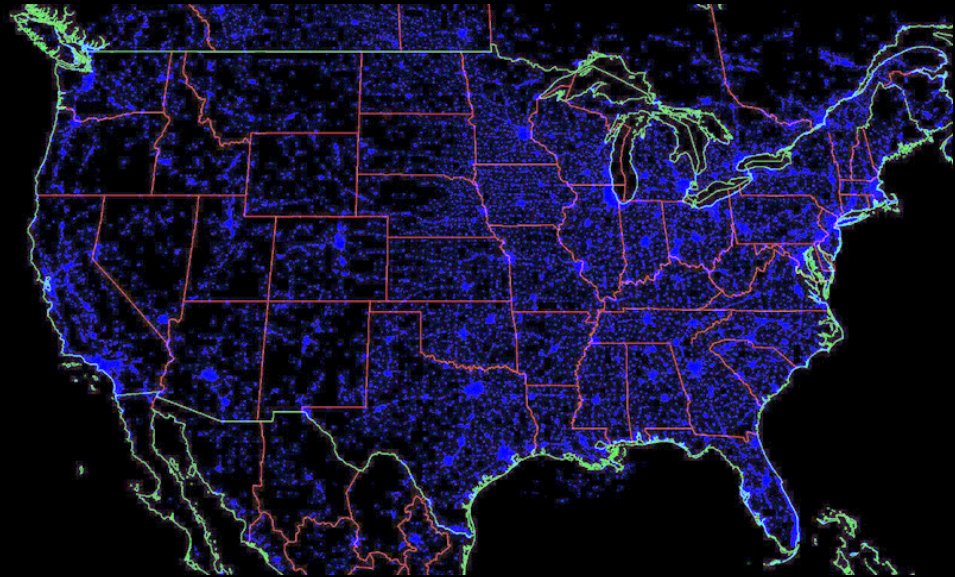
The **Cornell** Lab  of Ornithology

## Ornithology has always engaged amateur participation

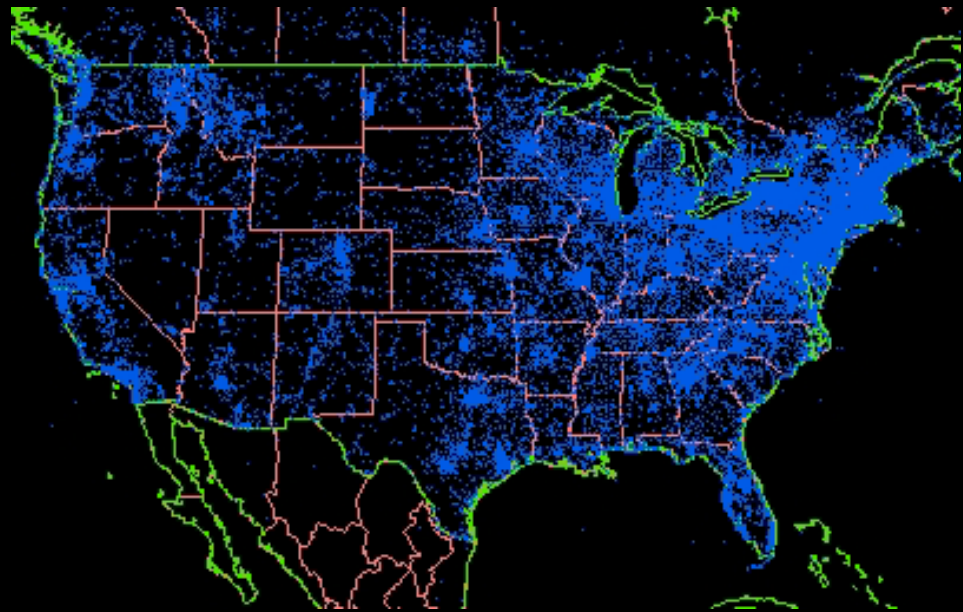
“ If stock photography is the first industry to be transformed by crowdsourcing, then ornithology is the first academic discipline to undergo the same process. ”



## Lights at Night



## Citizen Science Submissions





## Bienvenidos a eBird Puerto Rico

¡Donde tus observaciones hacen la diferencia!

[Registrarse como nuevo usuario](#)



Wolf Creek  
Charitable  
Foundation

### Noticias sobre observación de aves

#### [Aves en larga jornada](#)

En este mes hay que estar atento. El mes de octubre es quizás el mes donde más observaciones "raras" se reportan en Puerto Rico. Estas observaciones raras corresponden a especies que no están presentes en la isla todo el año pues son especies migrantes.



#### [Juvenil de Gallito Amarillo en la Hacienda la Esperanza](#)

En la mañana del pasado 15 de agosto de 2007, en la Reserva Natural Hacienda La Esperanza, al norte del municipio de Manatí, una compañera de trabajo me comentó que había observado unos Gallitos Negros (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) caminando buscando comida entre la vegetación del humedal. Para mi sorpresa no fueron Gallitos Negros lo que encontré sino un juvenil de Gallito Amarillo (*Porzana flaviventer*).



Foto: Alberto López

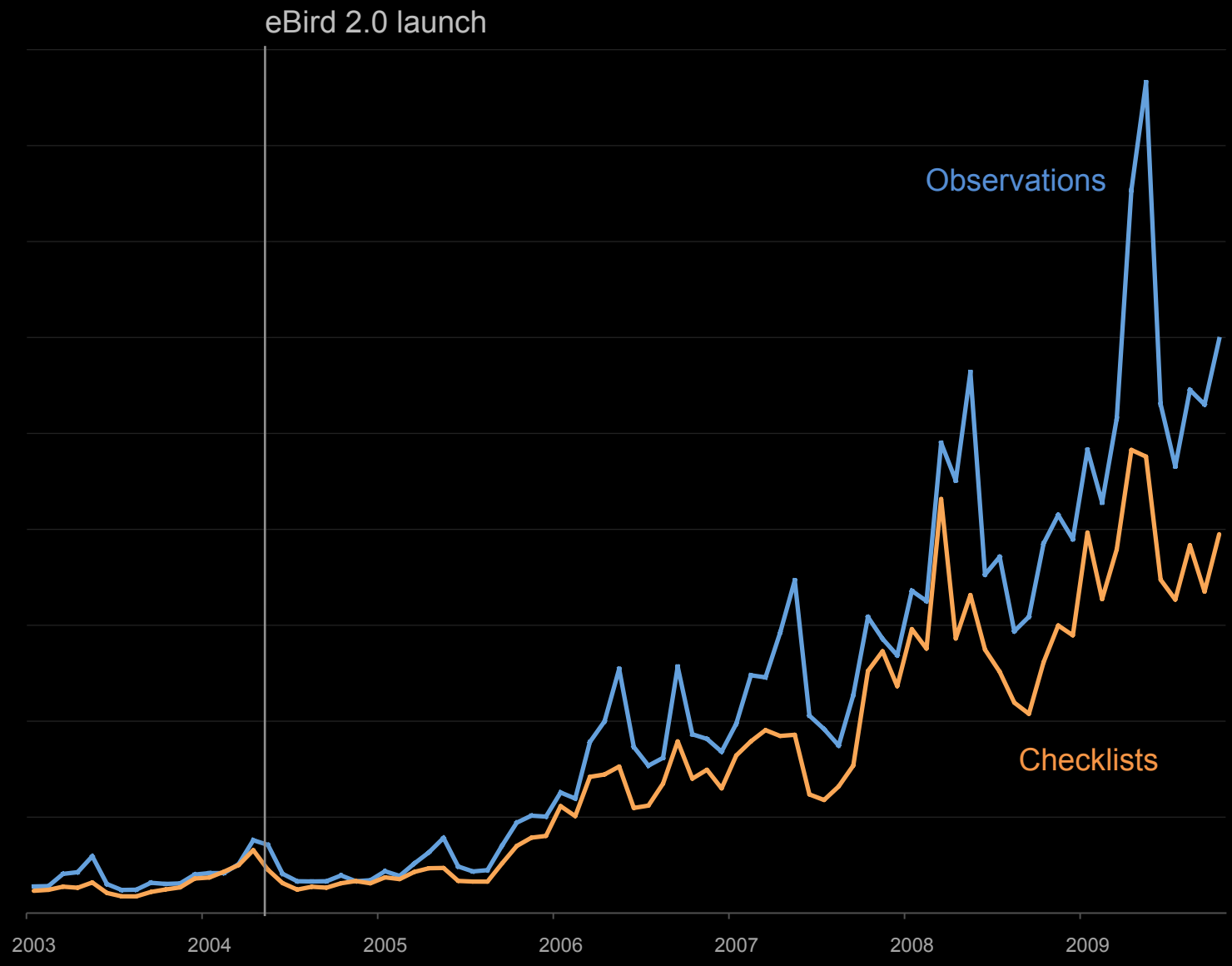
cambios en patrones de migración. Una de estas especies lo es el Vireo Ojiblanco (*Vireo griseus*).



Wolf Creek  
Charitable  
Foundation



# Growth in eBird Observations and Checklists





[« back](#)

Step: [1] [2] **[3]** [4]

### Step 3: What did you see or hear?

aa NY TOM BCF

Snow Goose	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cackling Goose	<input type="checkbox"/>	Canada Goose	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood Duck	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gadwall	<input type="checkbox"/>	American Wigeon	<input type="checkbox"/>
American Black Duck	<input type="checkbox"/>	American Black Duck x Mallard (hybrid)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mallard	<input type="checkbox"/>
Blue-winged Teal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Northern Shoveler	<input type="checkbox"/>	Northern Pintail	<input type="checkbox"/>
Green-winged Teal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Green-winged Teal (American)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Canvasback	<input type="checkbox"/>
Redhead	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ring-necked Duck	<input type="checkbox"/>	Greater Scaup	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lesser Scaup	<input type="checkbox"/>	Surf Scoter	<input type="checkbox"/>	White-winged Scoter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black Scoter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Long-tailed Duck	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bufflehead	<input type="checkbox"/>
Common Goldeneye	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hooded Merganser	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Merganser	<input type="checkbox"/>
Red-breasted Merganser	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ruddy Duck	<input type="checkbox"/>		

### Grouse, Quail, and Allies

[Top](#)

Ring-necked Pheasant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ruffed Grouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wild Turkey	<input type="checkbox"/>
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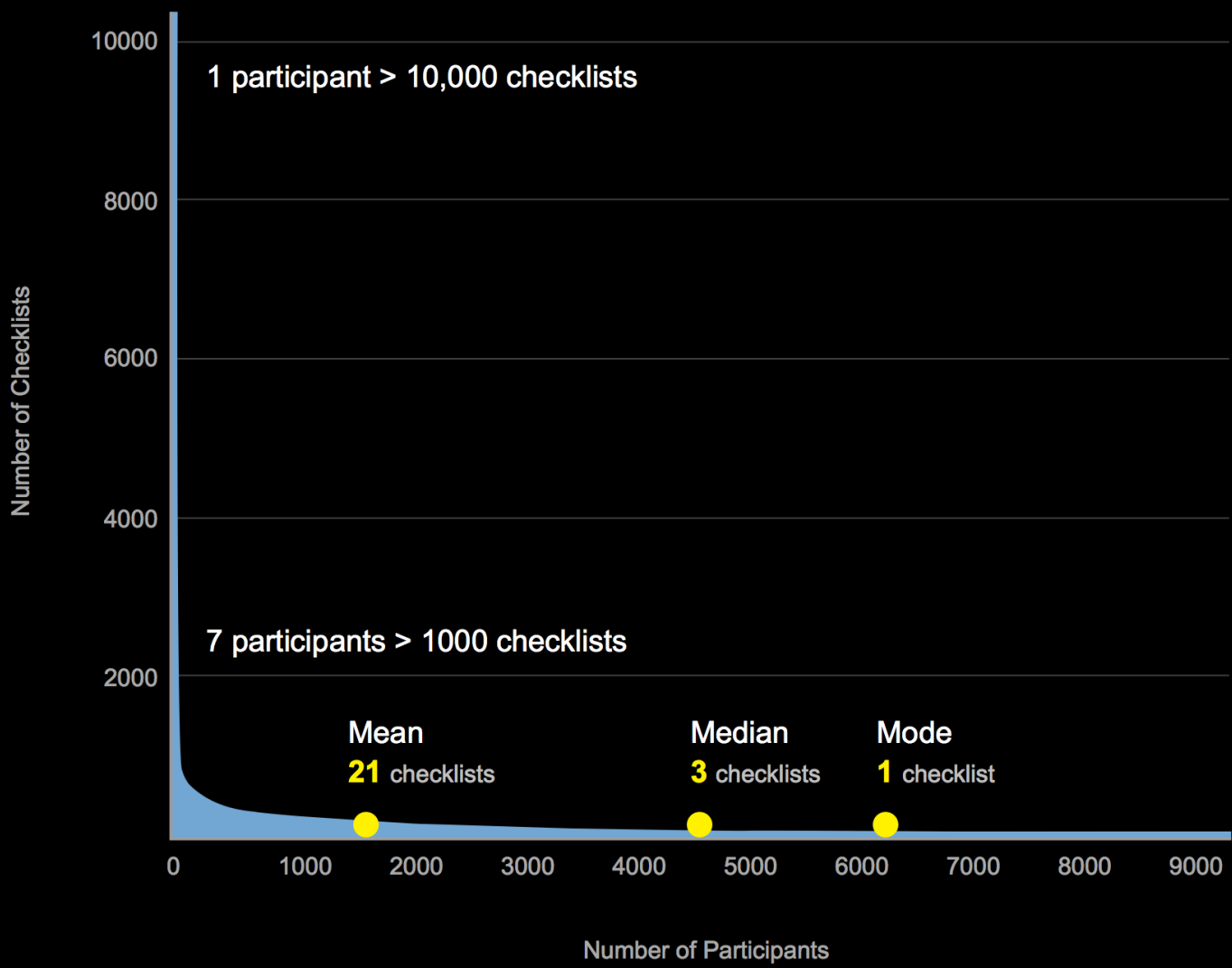
### Loons and Grebes

[Top](#)

Red-throated Loon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Loon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pied-billed Grebe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Horned Grebe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red-necked Grebe	<input type="checkbox"/>		

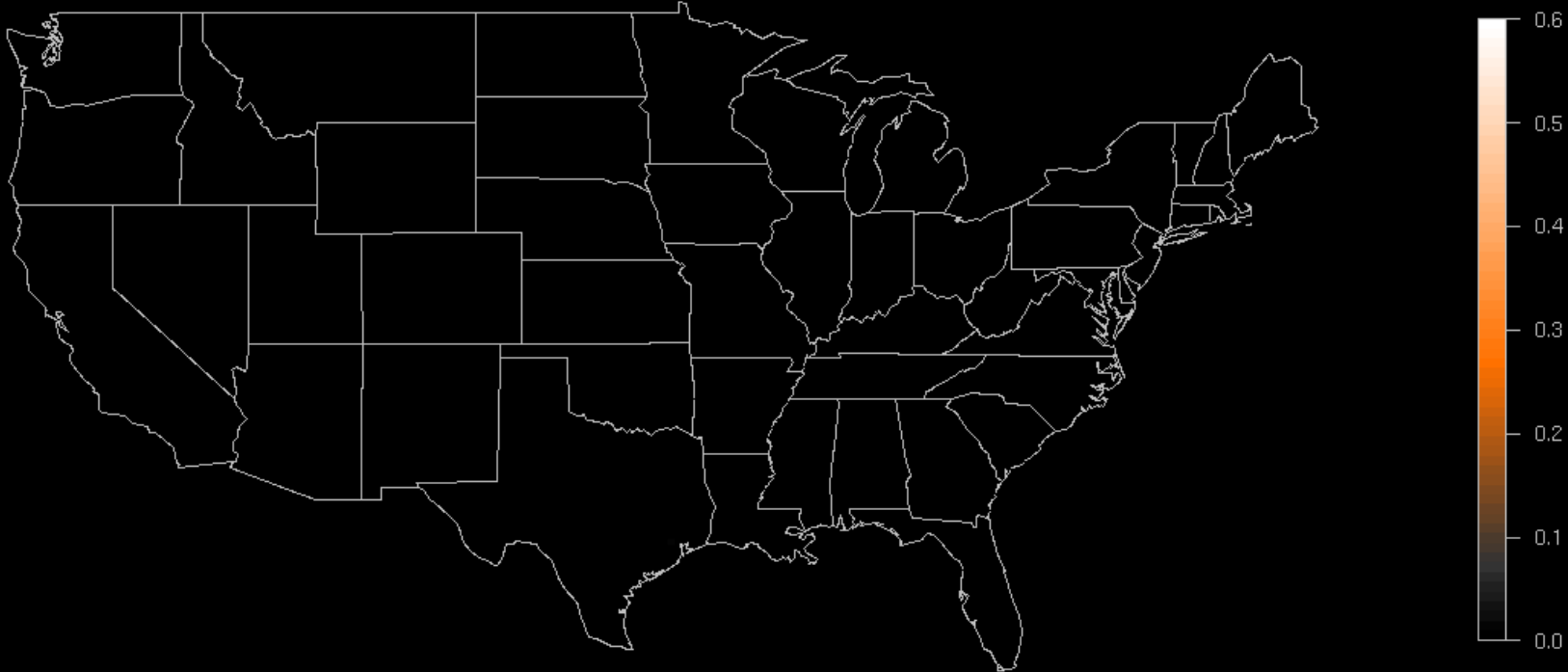


# 2008 Checklist Submissions Follow a Power Law Distribution



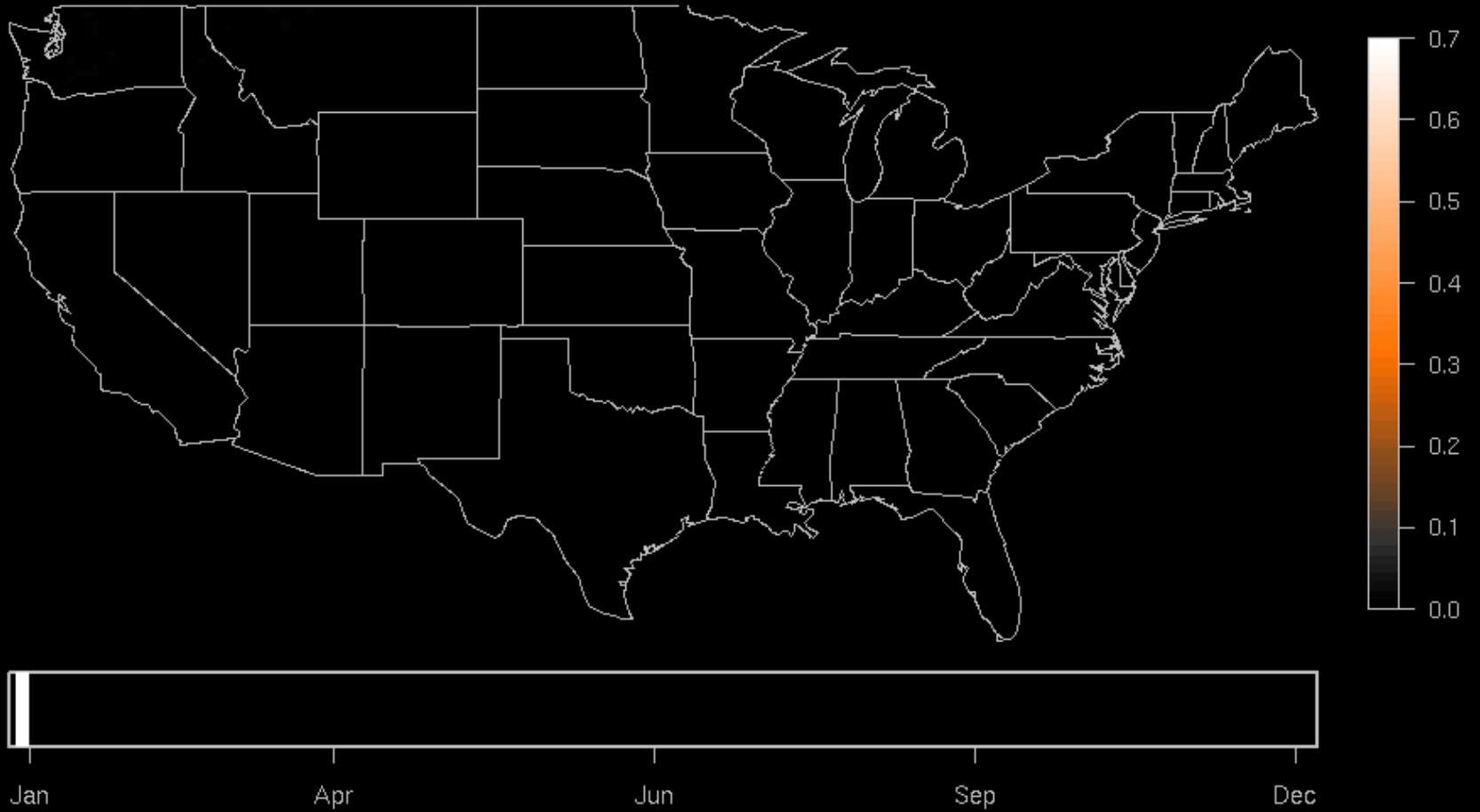


# Chimney Swift | Full Year





# Animation - Western Wood Peewee





**EVA Workgroup Overview:  
*Scientific Exploration, Visualization,  
and Analysis***



# The Observation Network for Earth

## Goal:

- To ensure the preservation and access to multi-scale, multi-discipline, and multi-national data.
- Provide an open, persistent, robust and secure access to well-described and easily discovered data.

## Transcend domain boundaries

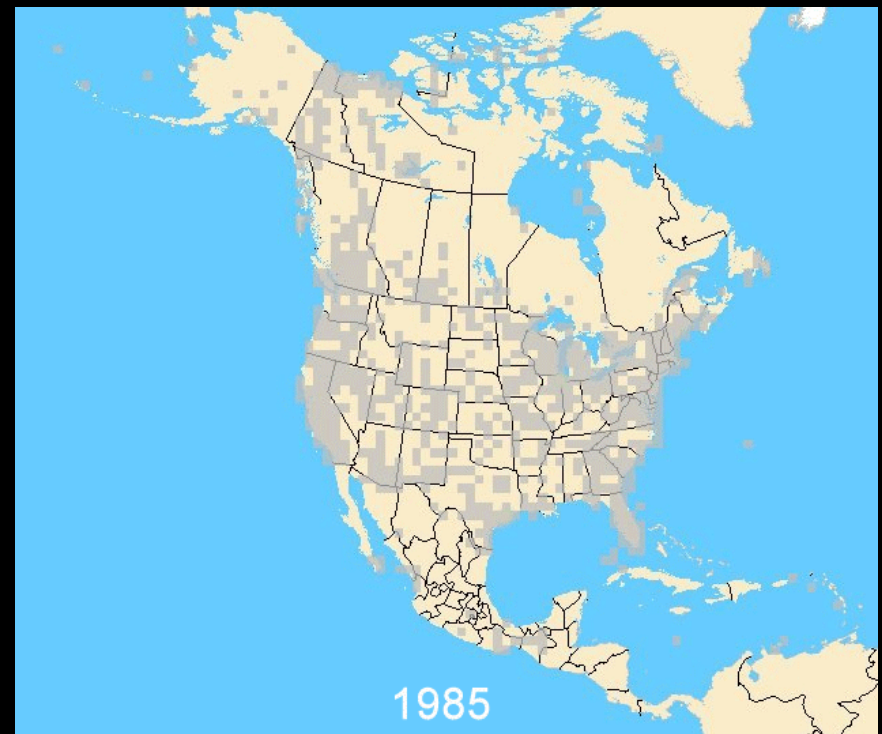
- Biological data: from the genome to the ecosystem;
- Environmental data: from atmospheric, ecological, hydrological, and oceanographic sources;

**→ *Not Just BIG DATA***

## Migration Phenology

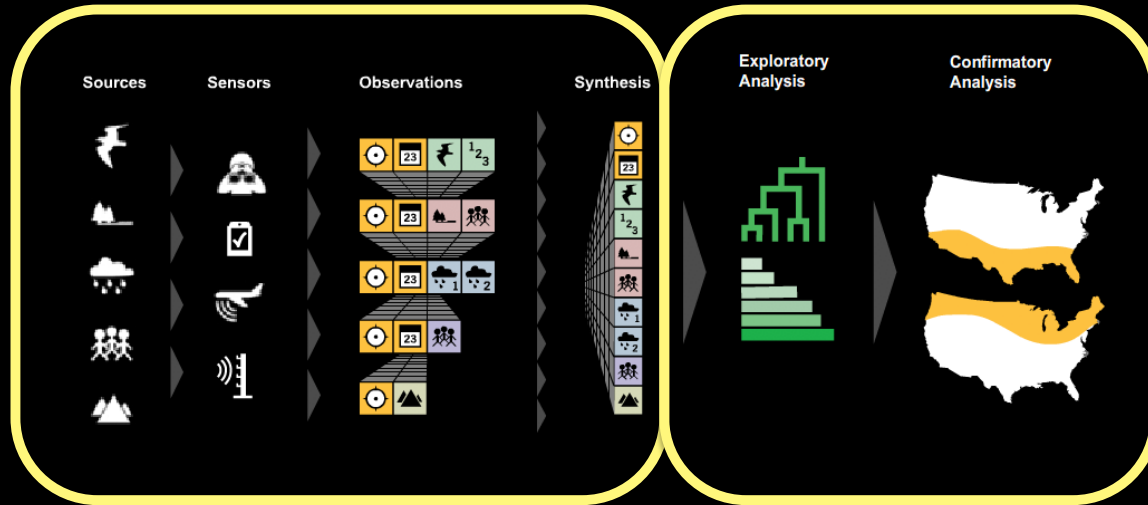


## Invasive Species Monitoring



# The Data Intensive Science

*Data  
Collection  
Organization  
Validation  
Preservation,  
& Access*



*Data  
Exploration,  
Visualization,  
And Analysis*

The full data “life cycle” from data curation to scientific learning

Engage scientists, land-managers, policy makers, students, educators, and the public



# EVA Workgroup Goals

Identify and develop exemplar problems for which we will create complete workflows

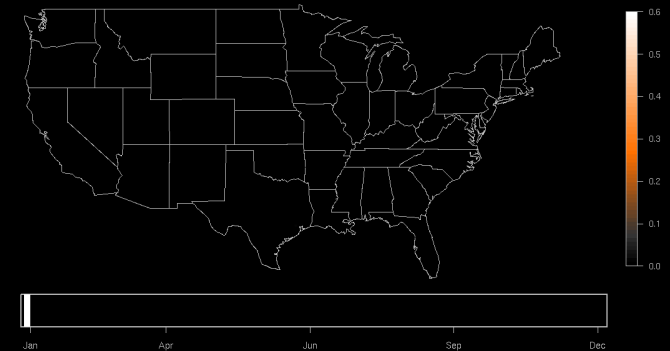
With exemplar problems

- Conduct publishable scientific research
- Test and guide development of DataONE cyberinfrastructure
- Engage communities (outreach & broader impacts)

# EVA Exemplars

Spatiotemporal analyses of

1. bird migrations and
2. the expansion of invasive species



We need to understand how species distributions change and evolve through time and what are the drivers associated with these changes

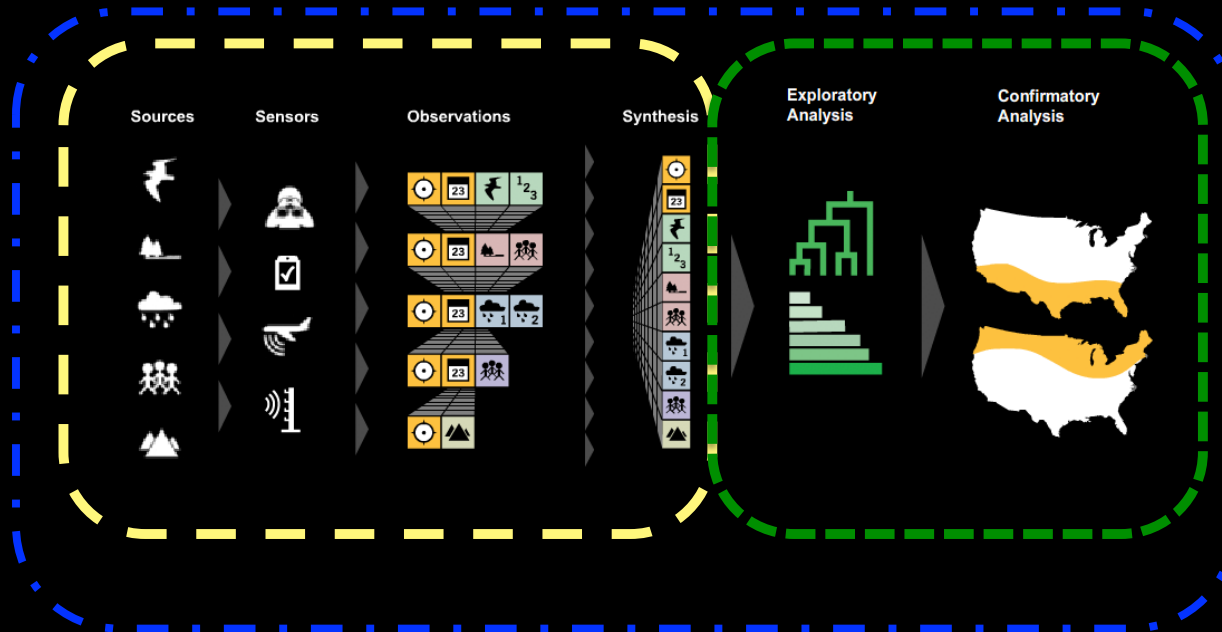
- Timing, Direction, Speed
- Forecast and control distributional changes
- Inform conservation & land use policy

# EVA Participants

- Participants:
- Steve Kelling (co-chair), Cornell Lab of Ornithology
- Bob Cook (co-chair), Oak Ridge National Lab
- Suresh SanthanaVannan, Oak Ridge National Lab
- Patrick O'Leary (U of Idaho)
- Jeff Morisette, USGS
- Claudio Silva, University of Utah
- Tom Dietterich, Oregon State
- Daniel Fink, Cornell Lab of Ornithology
- Kevin Webb, Cornell Lab of Ornithology
- Bill Michener, University of New Mexico
- Alyssa Rosemartin National Phenology Network
- Damian Gessler iPlant

# The 3 EVA Subgroups

**1 Data**  
**Subgroup:**  
Collection  
Organization  
Validation



**2 Model**  
**Subgroup:**  
Exploratory &  
Confirmatory  
Models &  
Visualizations

**3 Workflow Subgroup:**  
Workflow tools to facilitate Data  
Intensive Analysis

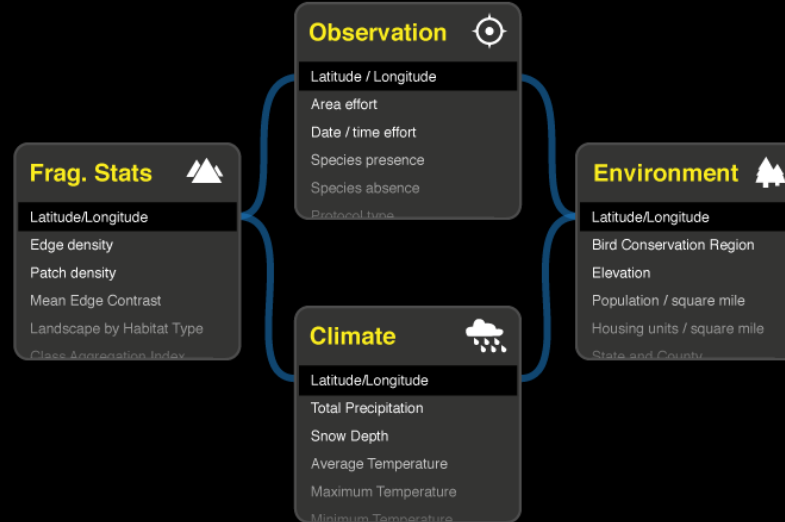
# Subgroup Tasks: 6-9 Months

- Data Subgroup
  - Acquire & Process additional data layers (Greening, PRISM, forest biomass, etc)
- Modeling Subgroup
  - Develop inferential methods to describe how spatiotemporal drivers (e.g. greening) are associated with change in distributions
  - Develop models to facilitate study of ST processes
- Workflow Subgroup
  - Use VisTrails to manage & develop workflows with SAHM
  - Use VisTrails to manage & develop workflows with STEM
  -



The challenges:

Data synthesis



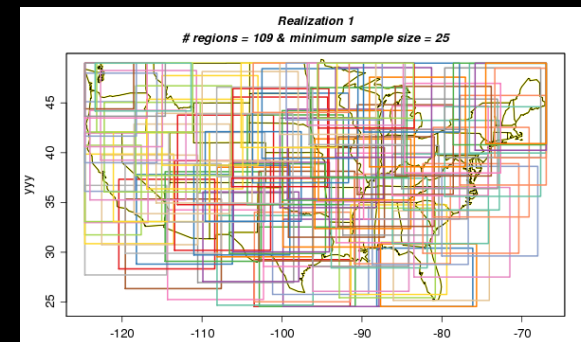
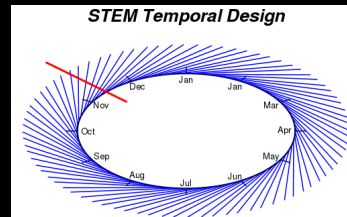
Suresh SanthanaVannan

Kevin Webb

The challenges:

Modeling

$$\frac{1}{n(s,t)} \sum_{i=1}^m f_i(X,s,t) I(s,t \in \theta_i)$$

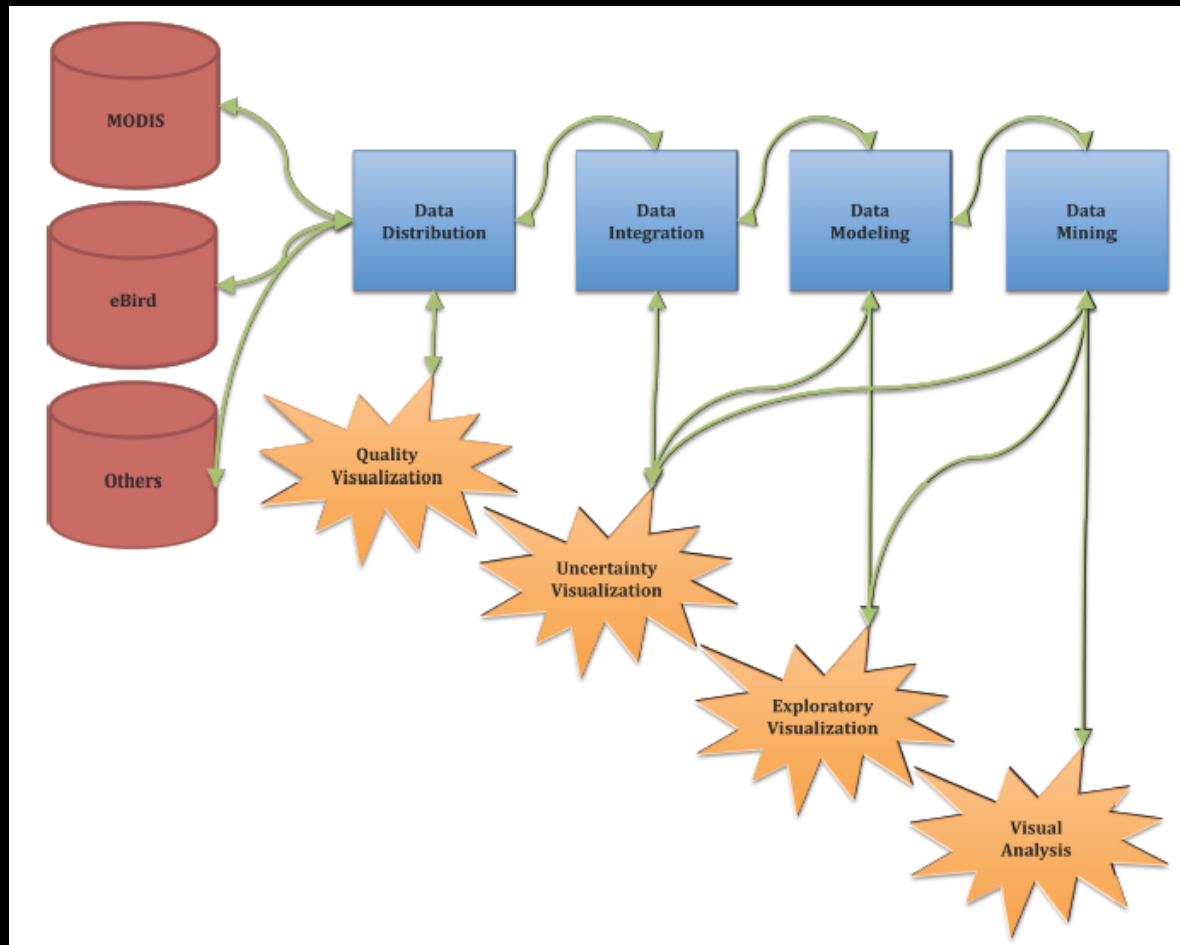


Daniel Fink  
Tom Dietterich  
Jeff Morisette  
Damian Gessler

model latent variables  
(i.e., variables which are not directly observed but inferred  
from model outputs based on variables that were observed).

The challenges:

## Workflow



The products:

Reference Dataset

Vis Trails Workflow

Migration Atlas of North America (Web)

Data Intensive Science Process Paper (Peer review)

Invasive Species Modeling (Peer review)



# Modeling Species Distribution Dynamics with Spatiotemporal Exploratory Models: *Inter-annual Bird Migrations*

Daniel Fink

[df36@cornell.edu](mailto:df36@cornell.edu)

Steve Kelling, Kevin Webb, and  
the AKN Research Team

The **Cornell** Lab  
of Ornithology 



LEON LEVY FOUNDATION

*The Legacy Of Leon Levy*

# Goal: Modeling Species Distribution Dynamics

We need to understand how species distributions change and evolve through time

- Phenology – annual cycle dynamics
- Conservation - migration corridors & stopover sites
- Spread of invasive species, diseases, dispersal, etc.
- Anthropogenic changes to environment
- ➔ *Large spatial & temporal extent*
- ➔ *Fine spatial & temporal scale*

Exploratory analysis:

1. Little a priori knowledge
2. Facilitate Discovery & Description

eBird



Home About eBird Submit Observations View and Explore Data My eBird

## eBird Data

- Traveling Count
- Lat - Lon
- Year (2004 – 2008)
- Julian Date (1-365)
  
- Observation Effort
- Observation Time
- Number of Observers

### ➔ Presence/absence

<= 8 km long

<= 3 hours

~150,000 observations

~30,000 locations



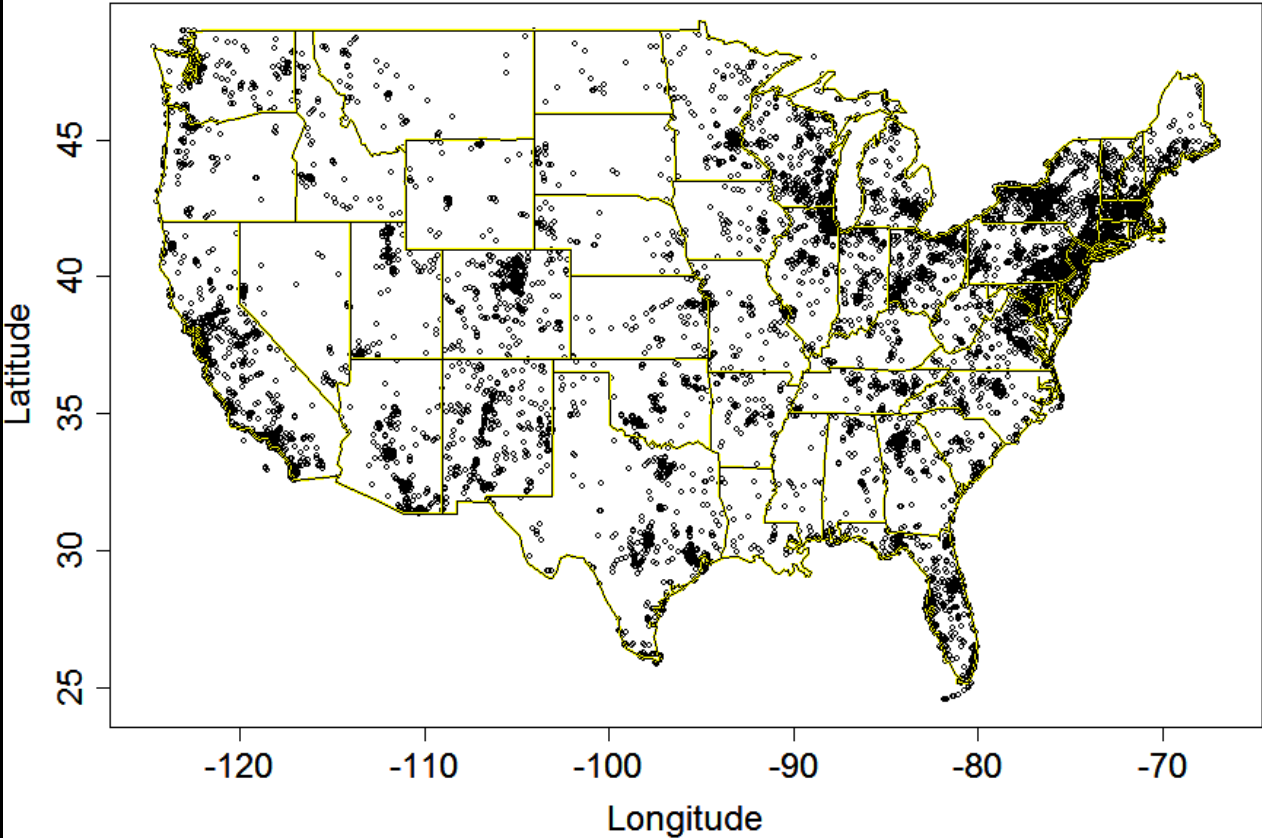
## National Landcover Data (NLCD)

- 2001
- 16 Classes
- 1.5 km pixel
- Spatial Composition (% coverage)
- Spatial Configuration (Fragstats)

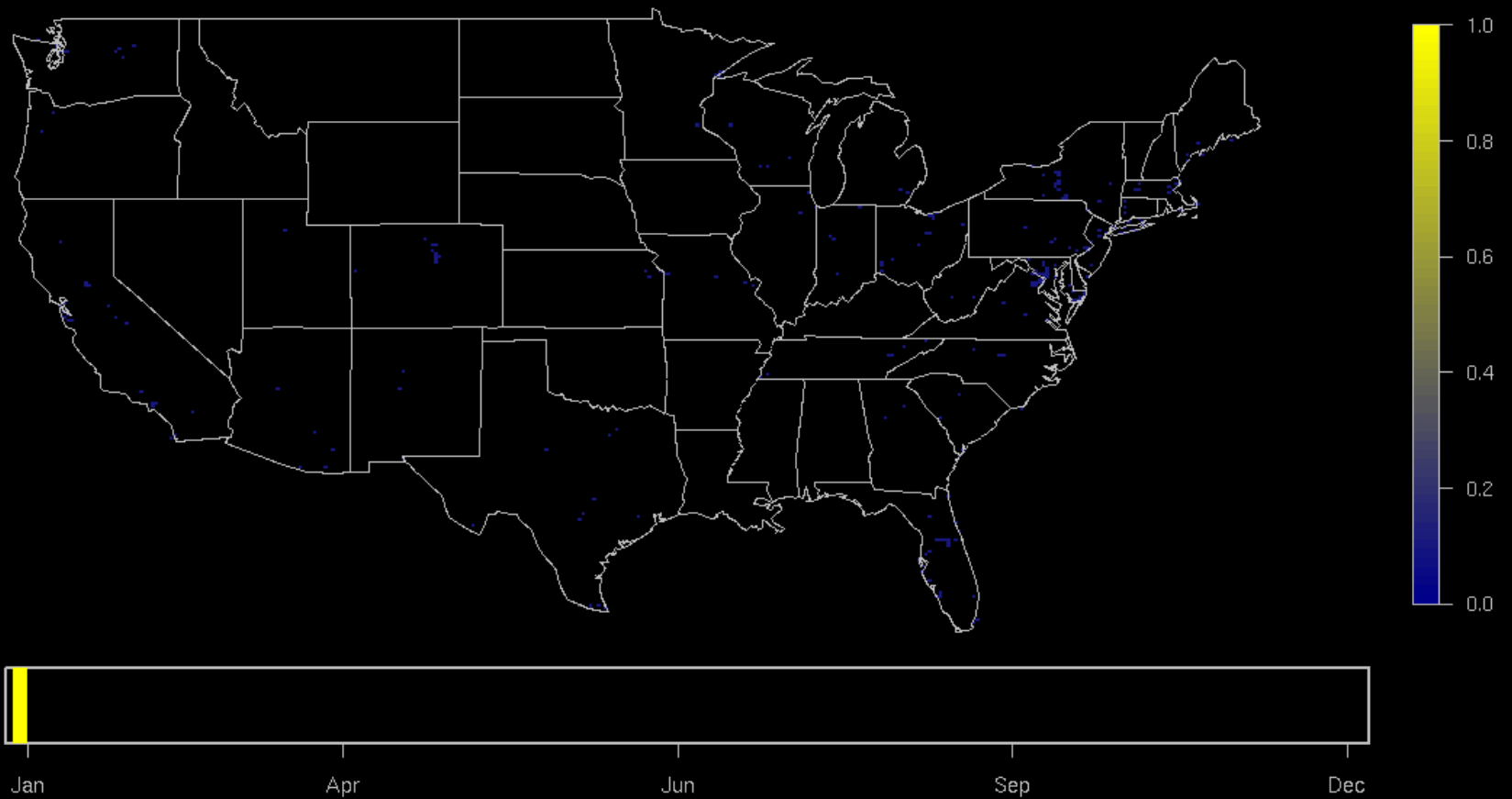
- Elevation
- Climate (30 yr average)
- Housing Density



# eBird Locations 2004 - 2007



# eBird data | 2008 traveling count protocol



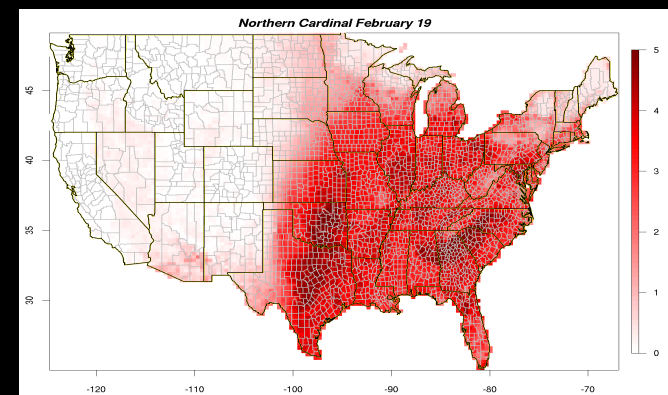
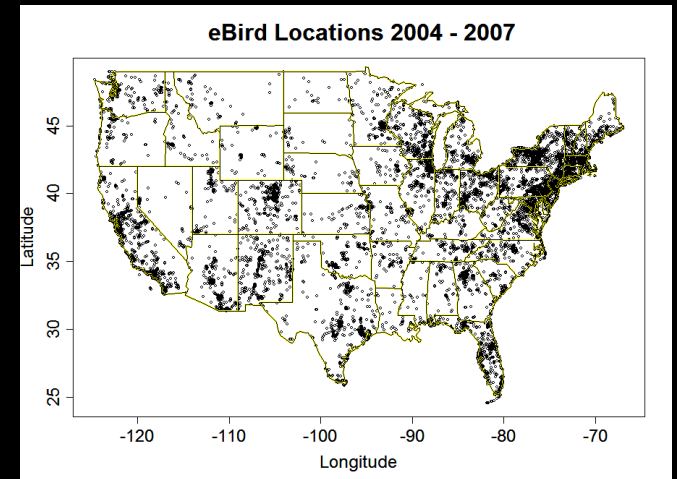
# Species Distribution Modeling

Goal: broad-scale & fine resolution

- Observational data are sparsely distributed in space and time
- Interpolation is essential

Modeling also buys us

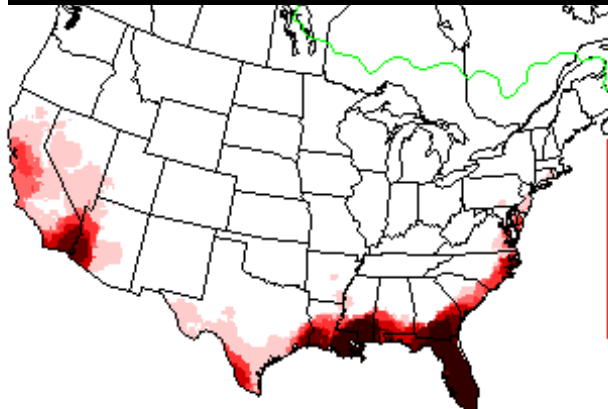
- Control bias
- Quantify uncertainty
- Framework for predictive experimentation



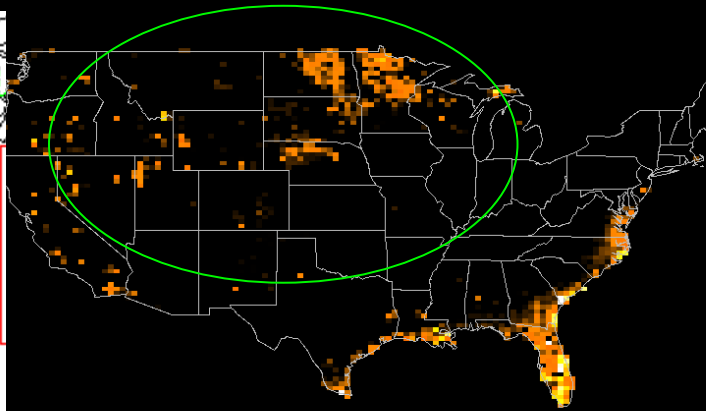


*(Tachycineta bicolor)*

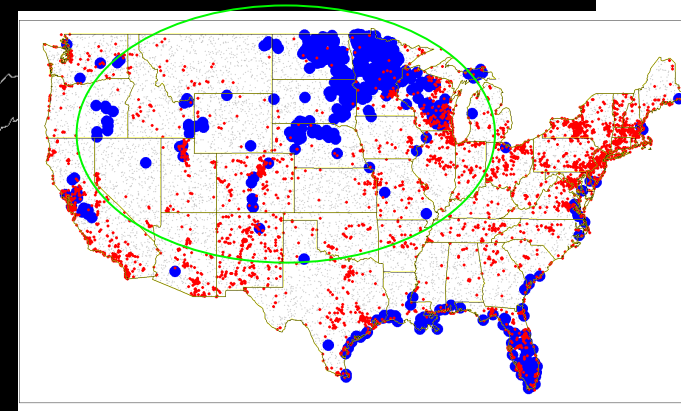
# Tree Swallow Winter Distribution Analysis Bagged Decision Tree



Christmas Bird Count



eBird BDT



Wetland Coverage > 5%

- *Nonparametric model with global support may aggregate data in ways that are ecologically impossible*
- *SDM shares habitat information across regions and seasons where Tree Swallows do not coexist.*

# The Multi-scale Challenge

Goal: Analysis at broad-scale with fine resolution

Challenge: spatiotemporal patterning at multiple scales

- Local-scale Homogeneity
  - Fine-scale spatial and temporal resource patterns
  - Local-scale dispersal
- Large-scale Heterogeneity
  - Regional & seasonal variation in species' habitat utilization
  - Source-sink dynamics & Allee effects
  - La Nina & North Atlantic Oscillation

## SpatioTemporal Exploratory Model (STEM)

Current nonparametric SDM's are very good for local-scale modeling by relating environmental predictors ( $X$ ) to observed occurrences ( $y$ )

$$y = f(X)$$

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Multi-scale strategy: differentiate between local and global-scale ST structure.

1. Make explicit time ( $t$ ) and location ( $s$ )

$$f(X, s, t)$$

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1. Make explicit time ( $t$ ) and location ( $s$ )
2. "Regionalize" by restricting support

Restricted Support Set ( $Q$ )

$$f(X, s, t) I(s, t \in \theta)$$



# SpatioTemporal Exploratory Model (STEM)

Current nonparametric SDM's are very good for local-scale modeling by relating environmental predictors ( $X$ ) to observed occurrences ( $y$ )

$$y = f(X)$$

Multi-scale strategy: differentiate between local and global-scale ST structure.

1. Make explicit time ( $t$ ) and location ( $s$ )
2. "Regionalize" by restricting support
3. Predictions at time ( $t$ ) and location ( $s$ ) are made by averaging across a set of local models containing that time and location

Restricted Support Set ( $\theta$ )

$$f(X, s, t)I(s, t \in \theta)$$

$j^{\text{th}}$  ST explicit base model

Number of models supporting ( $s, t$ )

$$\frac{1}{n(s, t)} \sum_{i=1}^m f_i(X, s, t)I(s, t \in \theta_i)$$

# Theta: The Spatio-Temporal Design

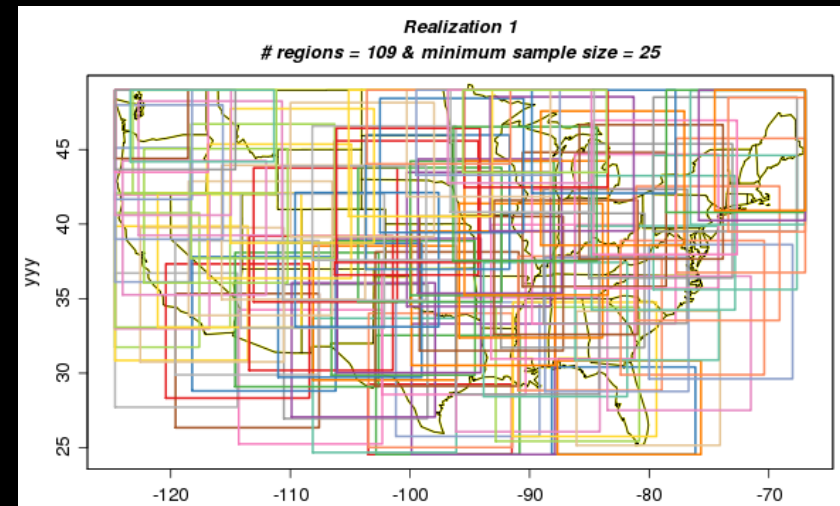
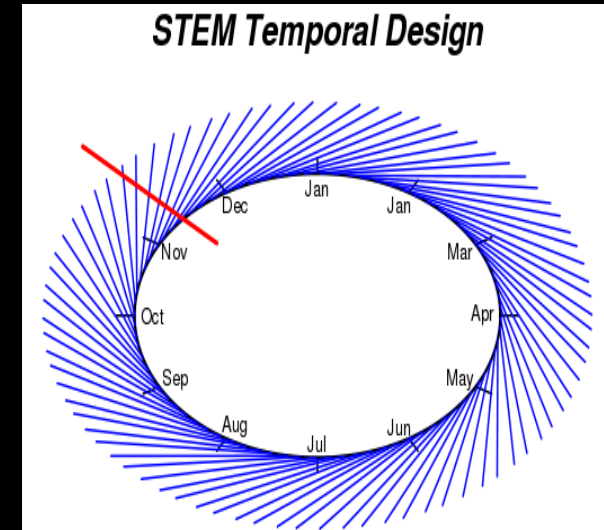
IDEA: ST Slice and dice sufficient overlap

## Temporal Design:

- 40 day windows
- 80 evenly spaced windows throughout year

## Spatial Design

- For each time window
- Random Sample rectangles (constant size)
- With at least 25 unique locations.



# The Spatio-Temporal Ensemble

$$F(X, s, t) = \frac{1}{n(s, t)} \sum_{i=1}^m f_i(X, s, t) I(s, t \in \theta_i)$$

## Quantitative Intuition

Statistical Experimental Design:  
Block over ST regimes to control  
variance



## Ecological Intuition

Local predictor-response learning  
No “long-range” learning

Bagging: resample block-level  
variance and average



“Local” averaging allows large-  
scale patterns emerge from  
local-scale

- *Add essential spatiotemporal structure to existing techniques*
- *Models a wide variety of dynamic processes automatically*

# Base Models: Decision Trees



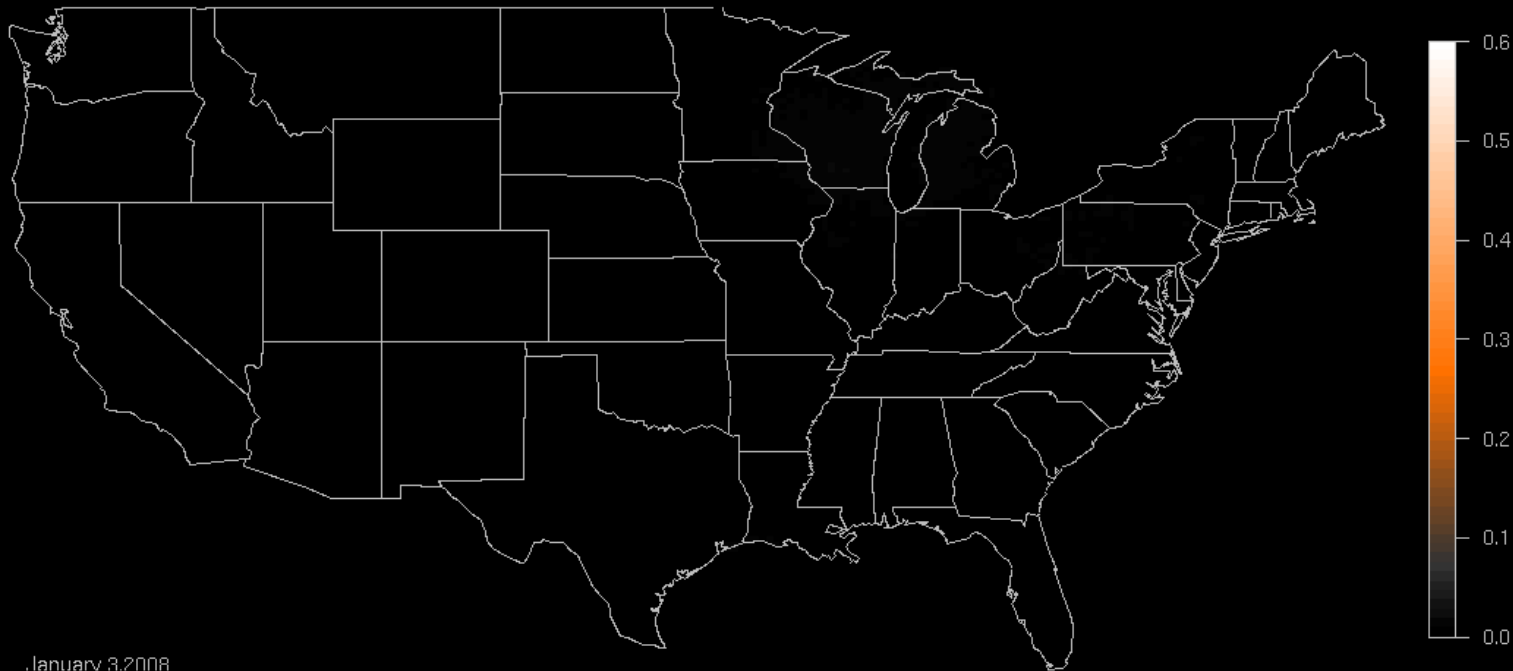
$f(\text{Habitat, Effort, LAT, LON, Year, Julian Date}) = \text{Predicted Count}$

## Strengths

- Automatic
- Good Predictive Performance
- Scale well to large data sets

- Monotone transformations
- Nonlinear predictor effects
- Automatic interaction modeling
- Missing covariates
- ➔ Predictor Selection is the main analyst decision

# Indigo Bunting | Full Year



. January 3, 2008



Jan

Apr

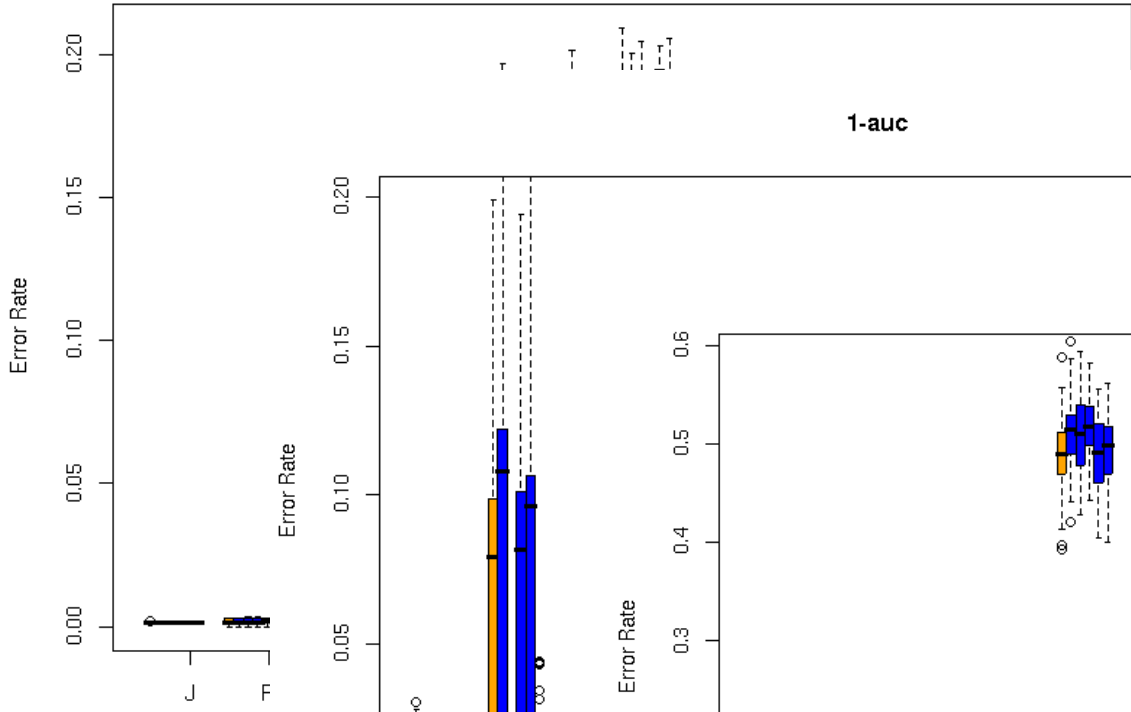
Jun

Sep

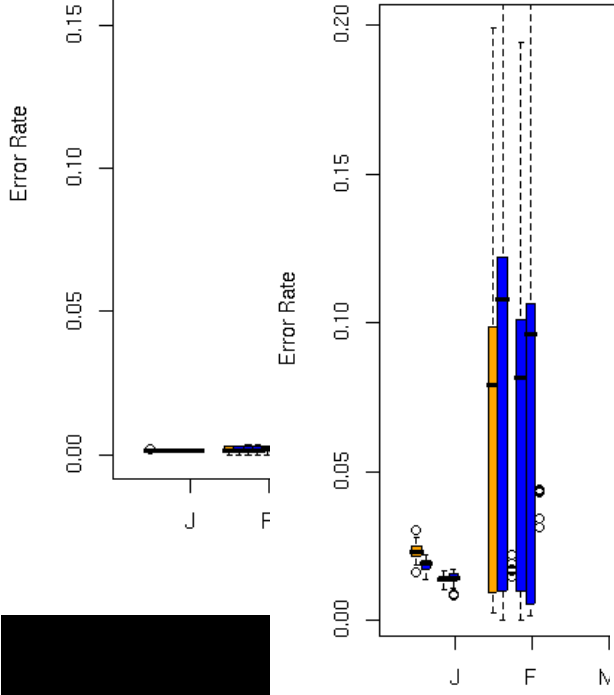
Dec

# Indigo Bunting | Monthly Predictive Performance

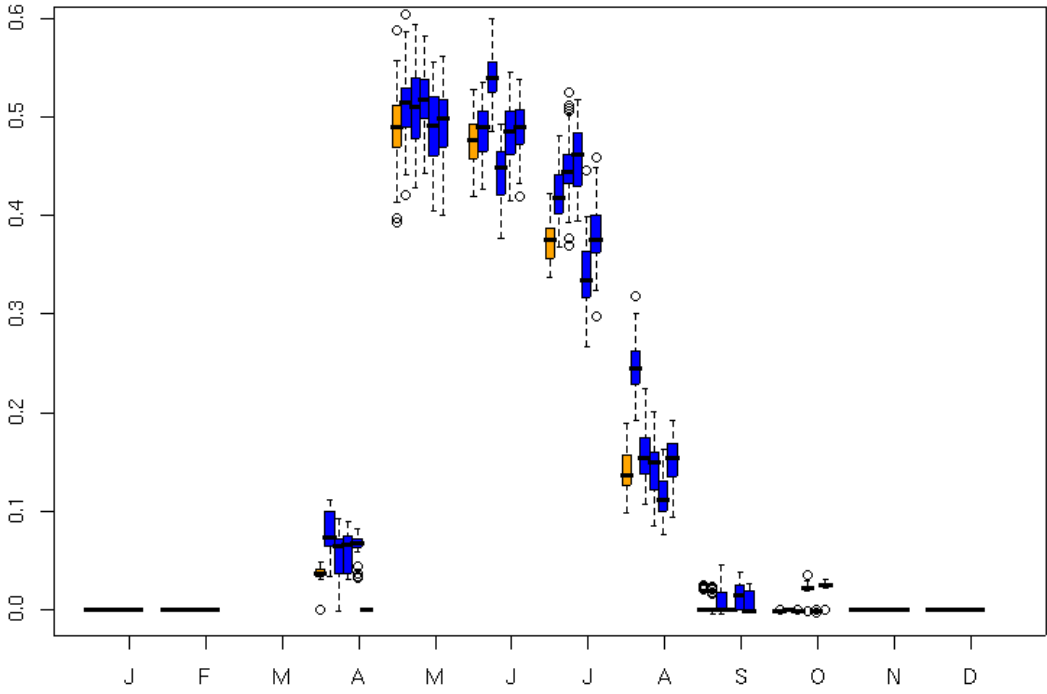
1-pcc



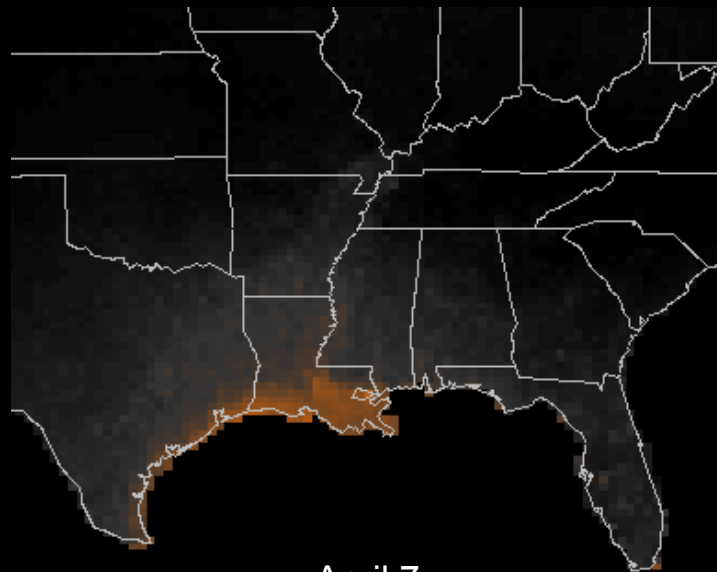
1-auc



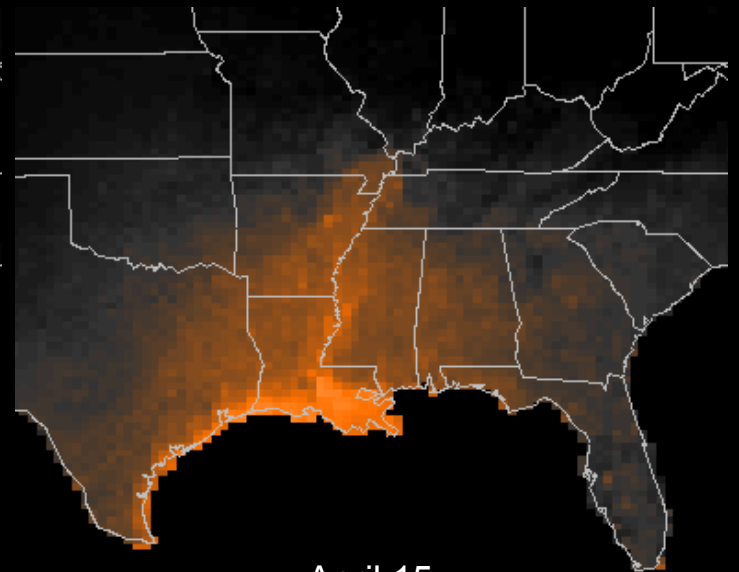
kappa



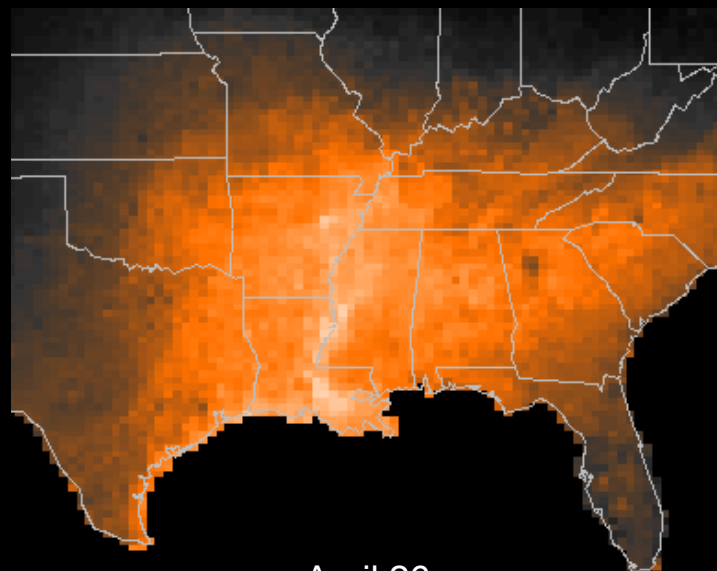
**Indigo  
Bunting**  
Spring  
Migration



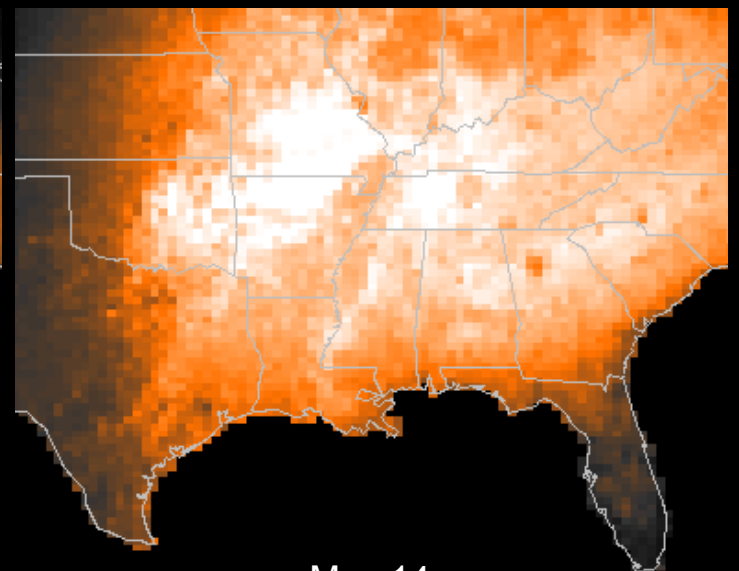
April 7



April 15

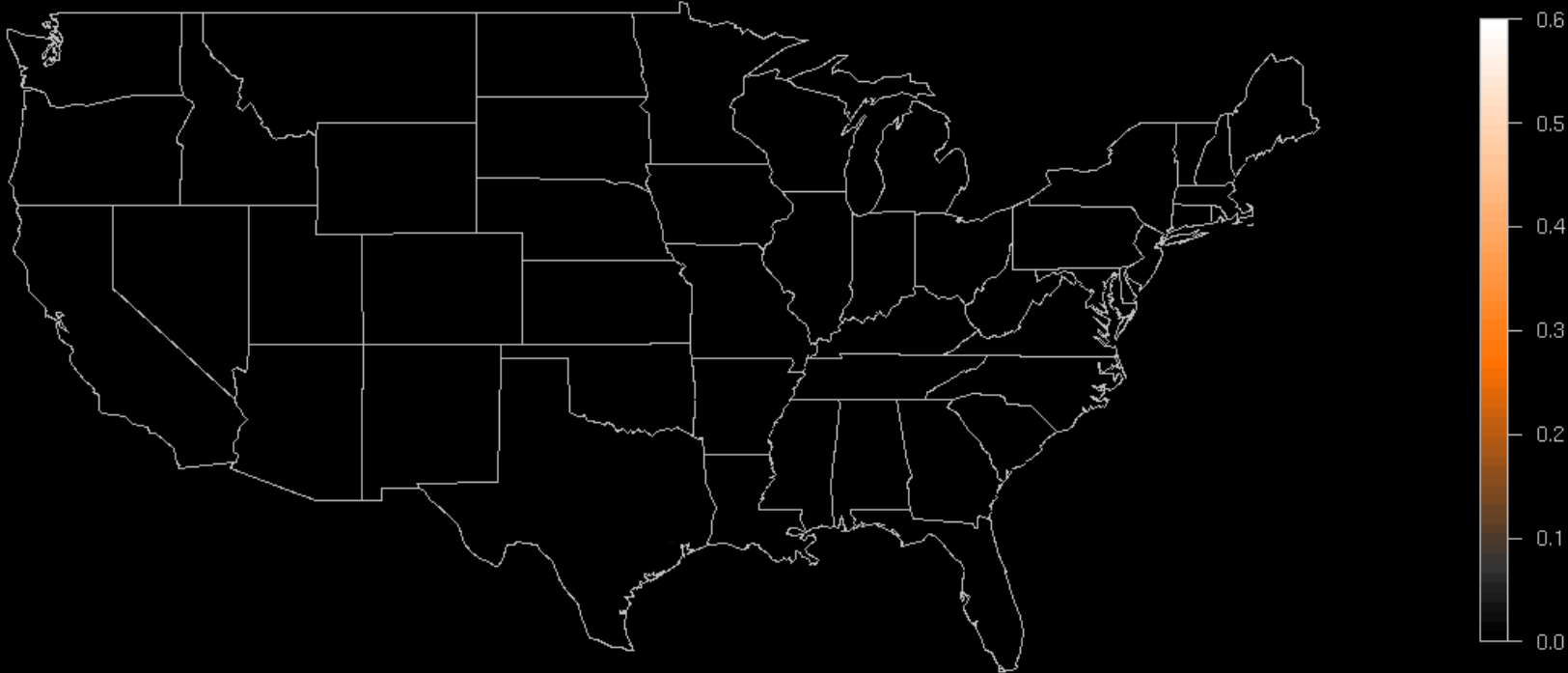


April 26



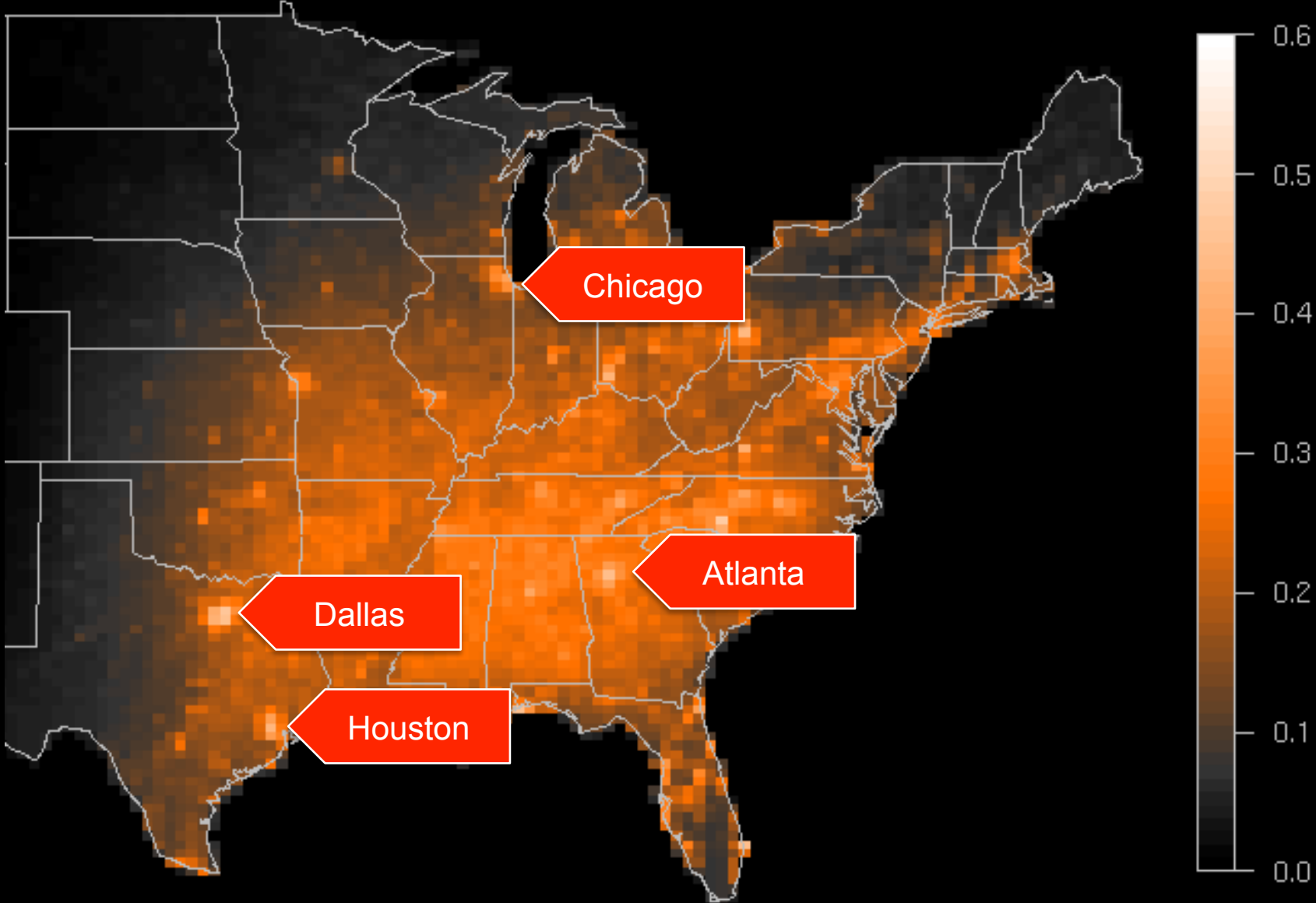
May 14

# Chimney Swift | Full Year



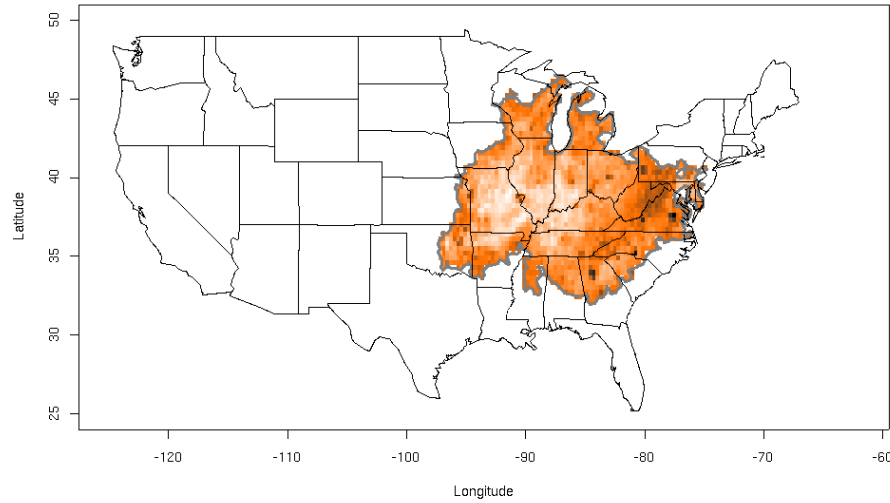


# Chimney Swift | Breeding

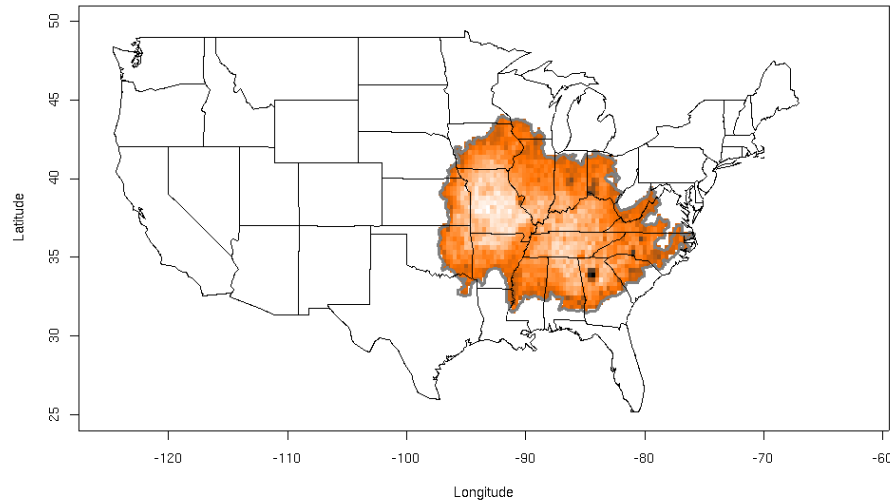


# Indigo Bunting | Relative Variable Importance

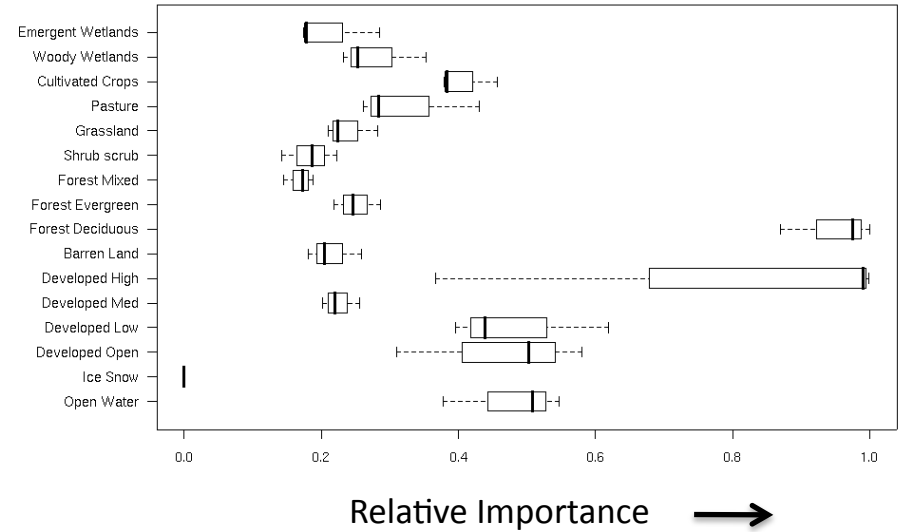
*Jul Core Region for Indigo Bunting*  
*P(occ) > 0.45 from July 1, 2008 to July 30, 2008*



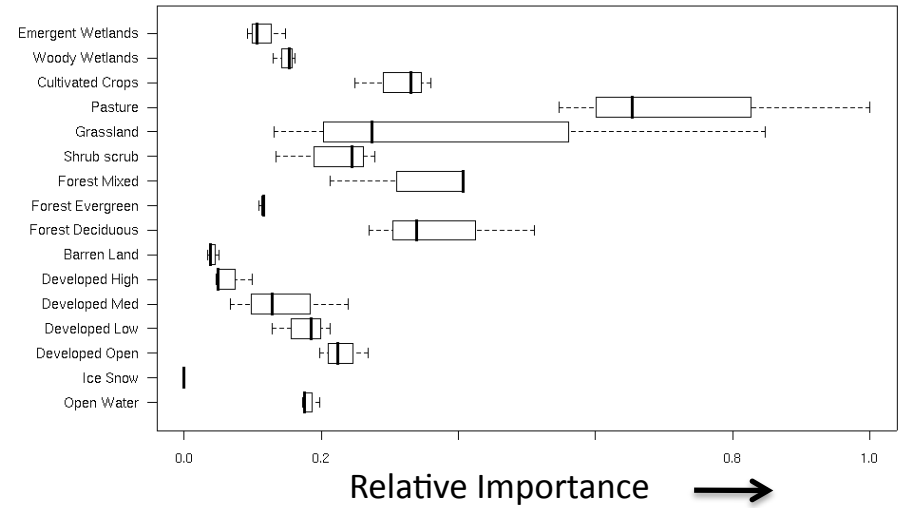
*Sept Core Region for Indigo Bunting*  
*P(occ) > 0.176 from September 1, 2008 to September 30, 2008*



*N-fold Distribution of mean VI*  
*STEM cell models = 335*

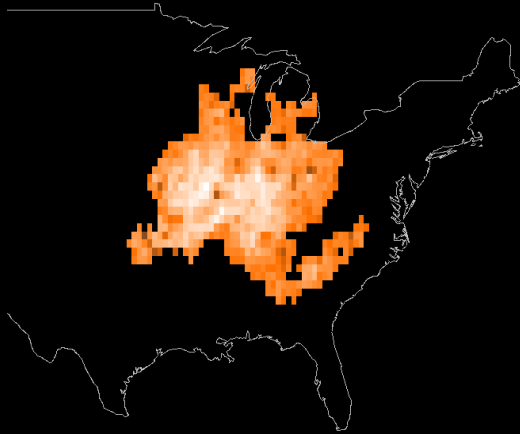


*N-fold Distribution of mean VI*  
*STEM cell models = 362*

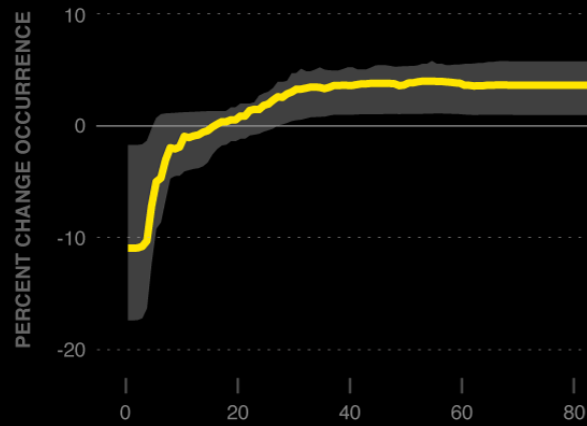


# Indigo Bunting | Habitat Preference

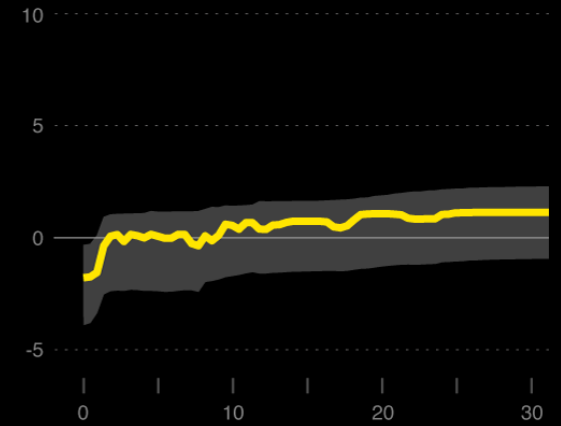
July



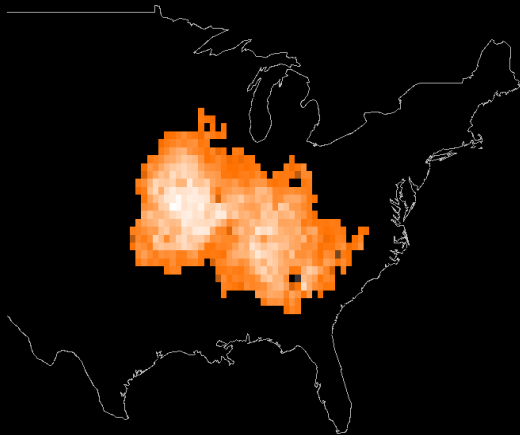
Deciduous Forest (%)



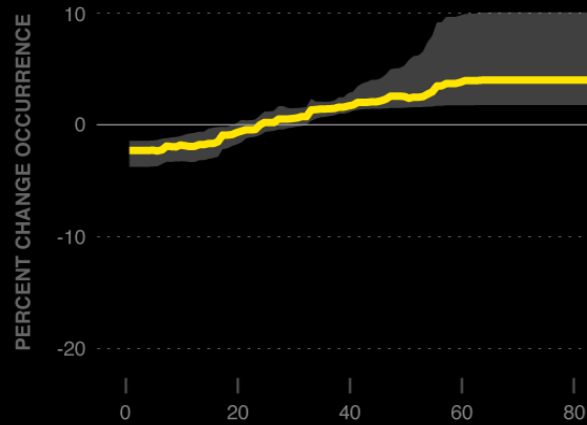
Pasture (%)



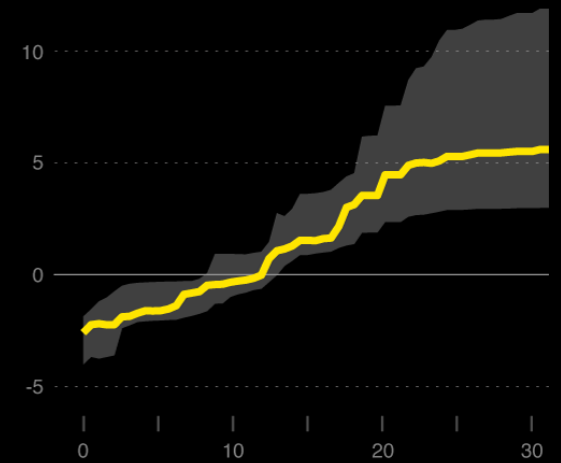
September



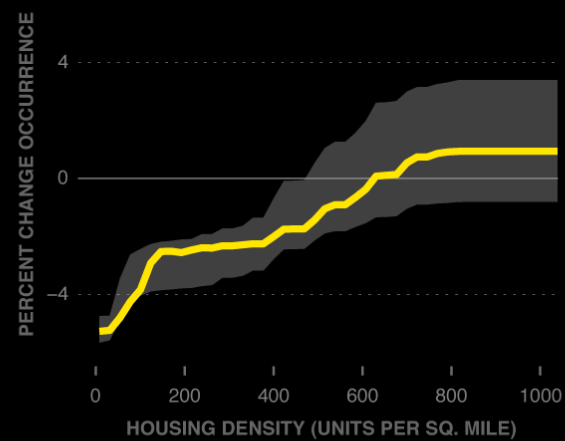
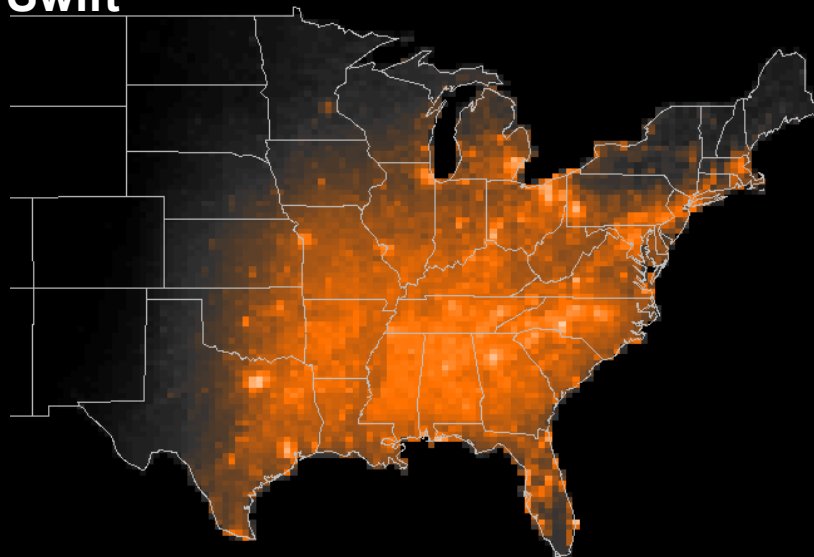
Deciduous Forest (%)



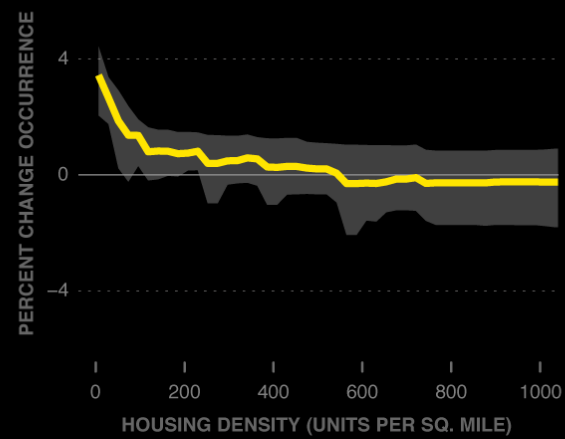
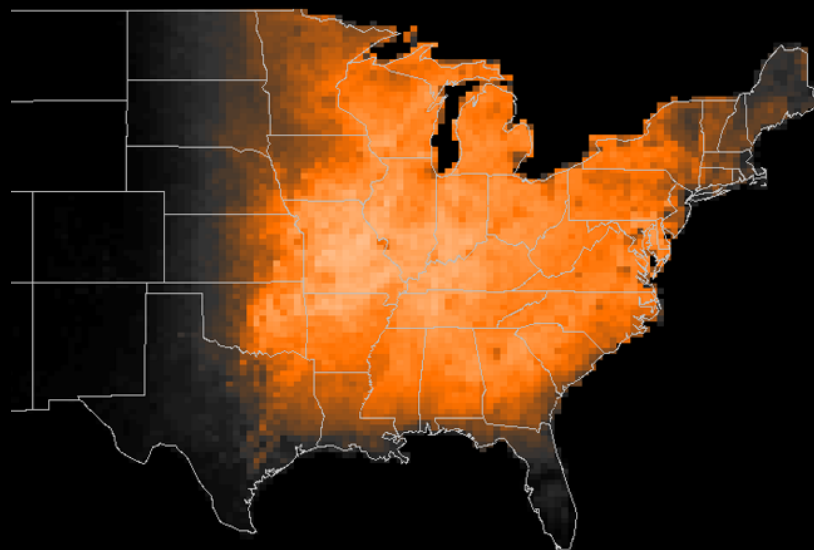
Pasture (%)



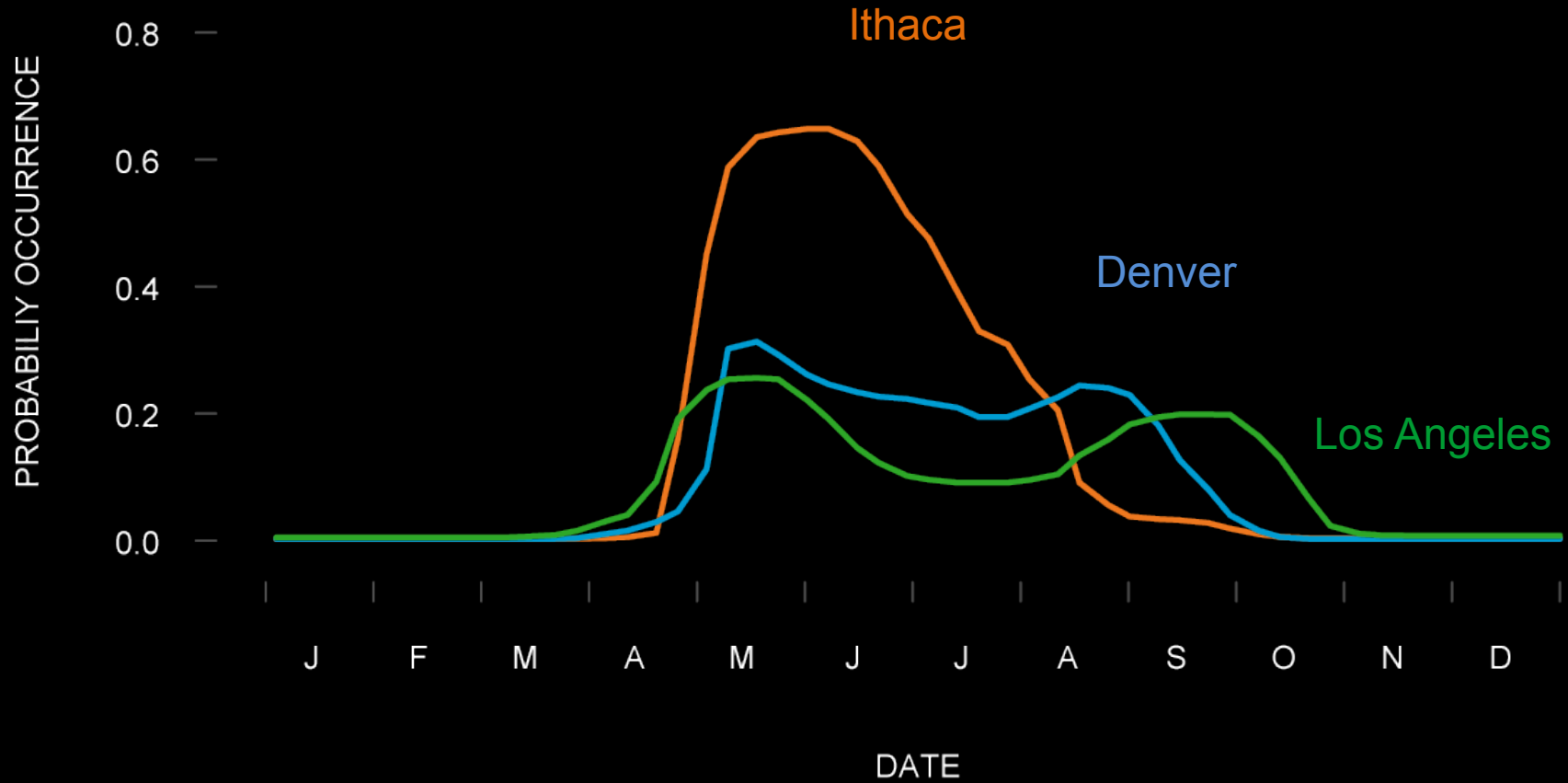
## Chimney Swift



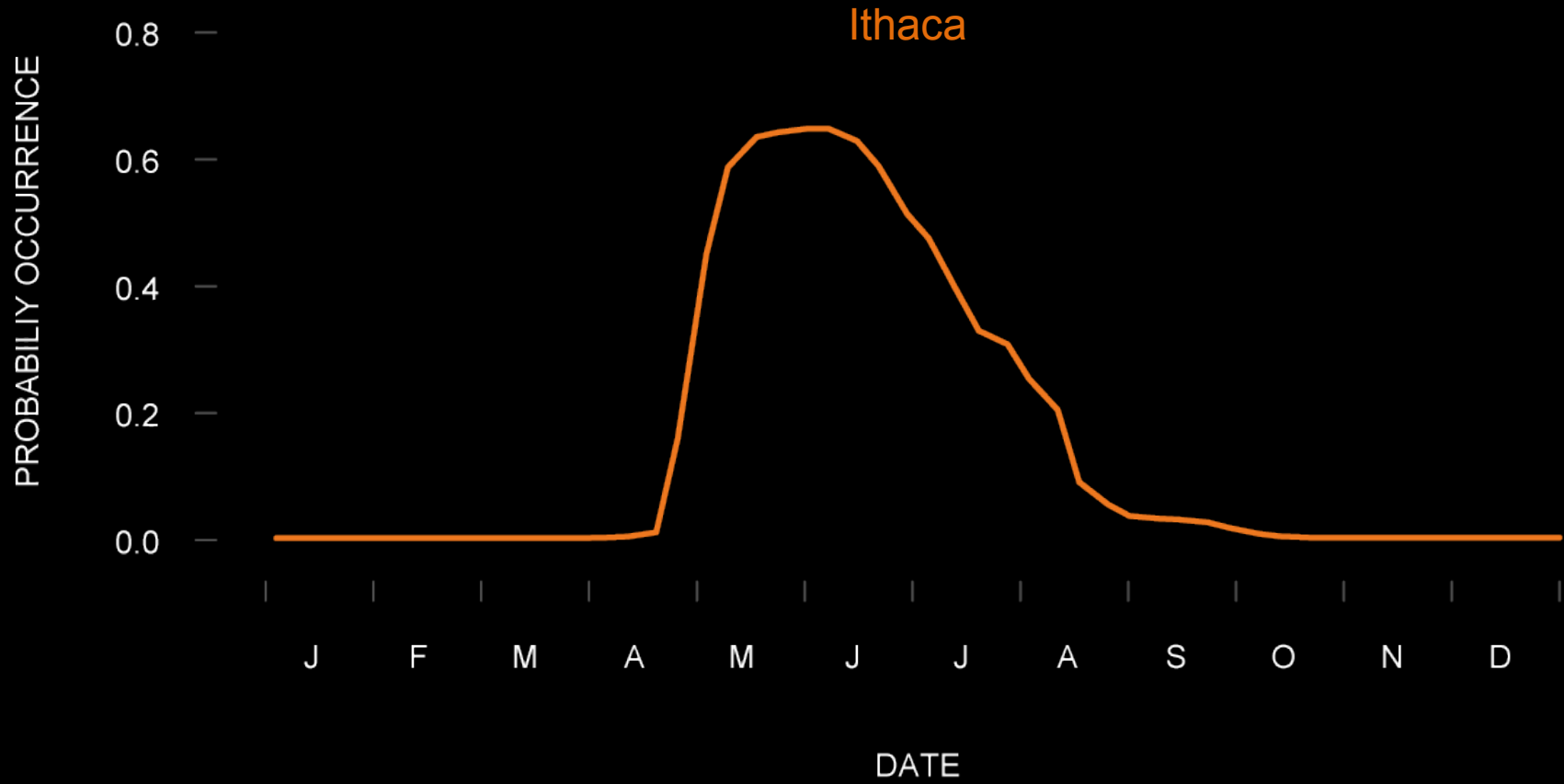
## Indigo Bunting



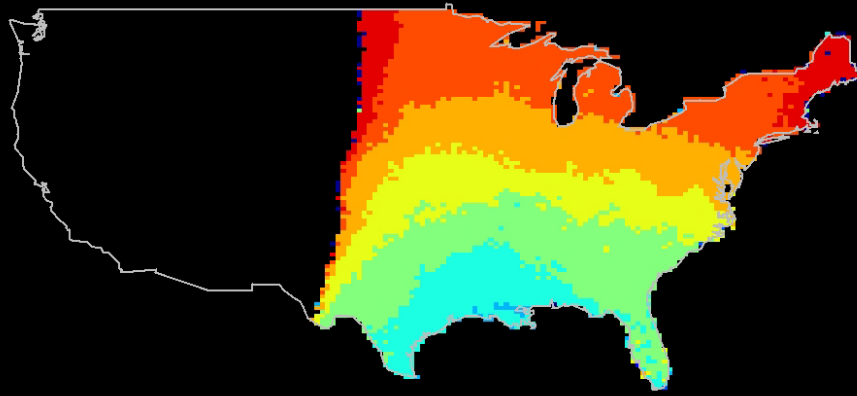
# Yellow Warbler | Occurrence Trajectories



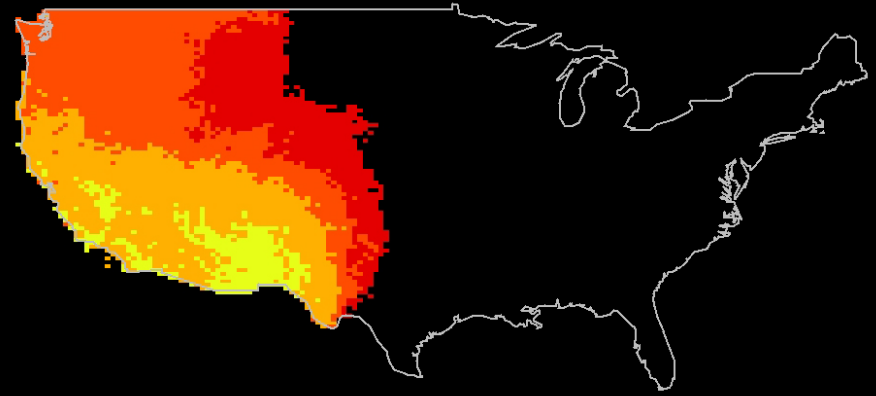
# Yellow Warbler | Migration Dates



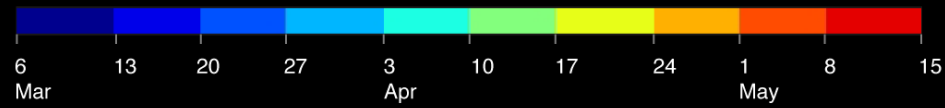
Indigo Bunting



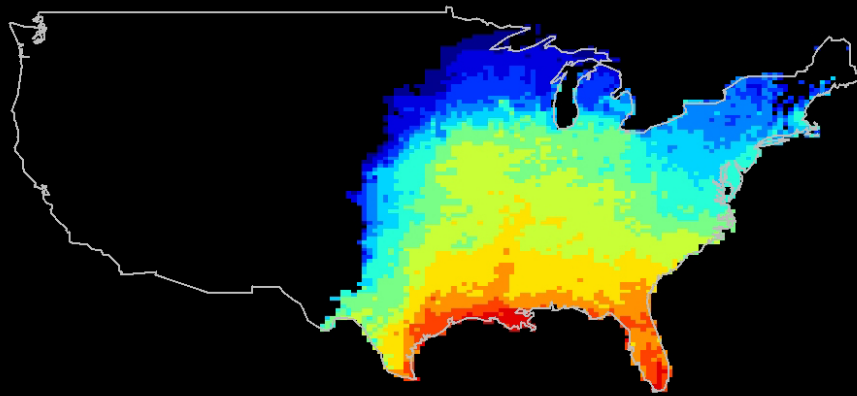
Western Wood-Peevee



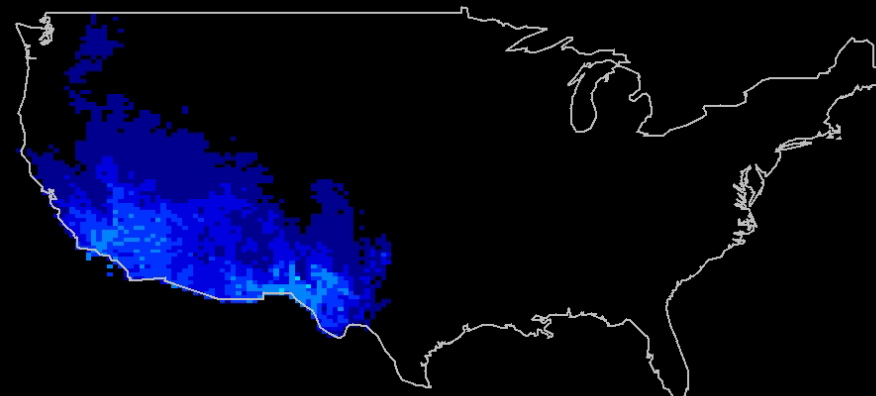
### Spring Arrival Dates



Indigo Bunting



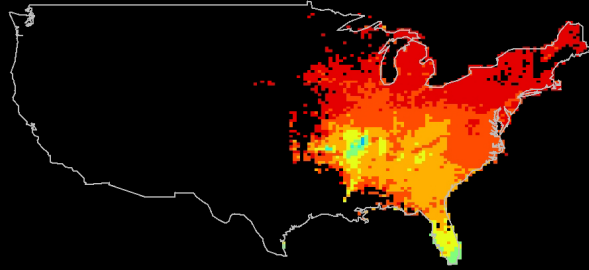
Western Wood-Peevee



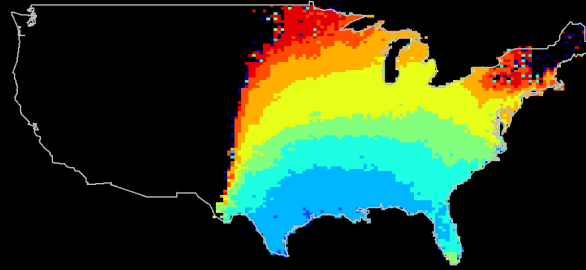
### Fall Departure Dates



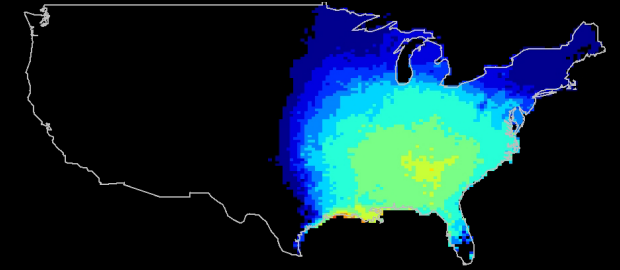
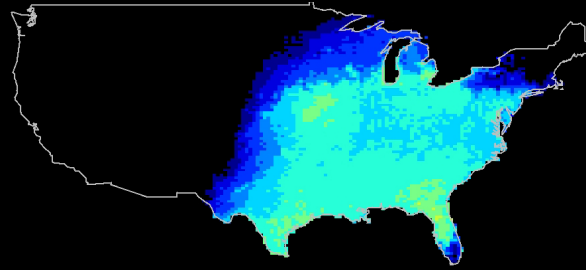
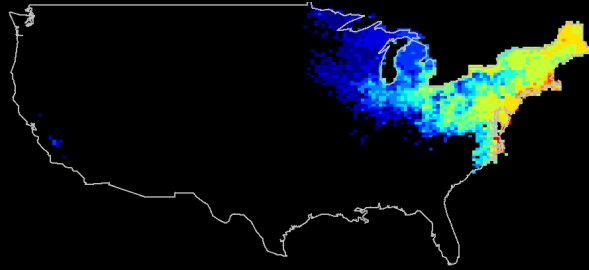
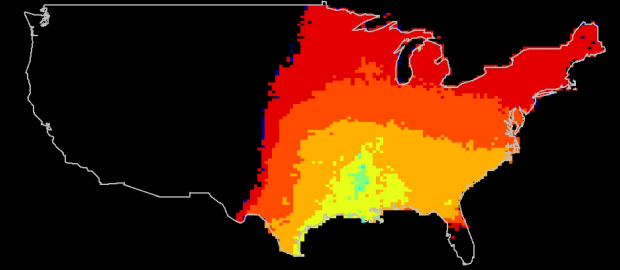
Blackpoll Warbler



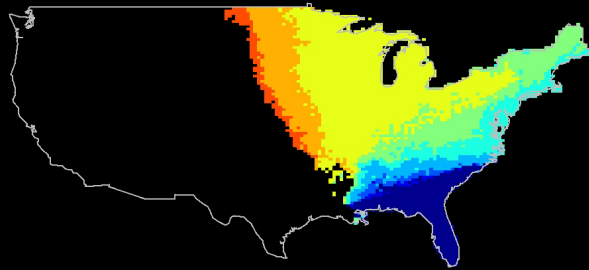
Chimney Swift



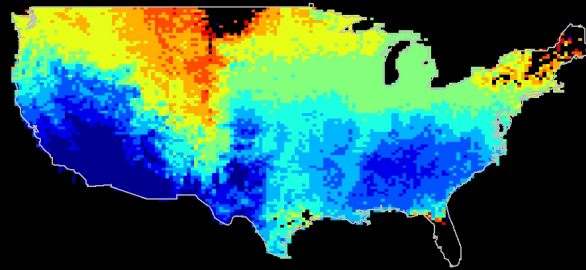
Eastern Wood-Peevee



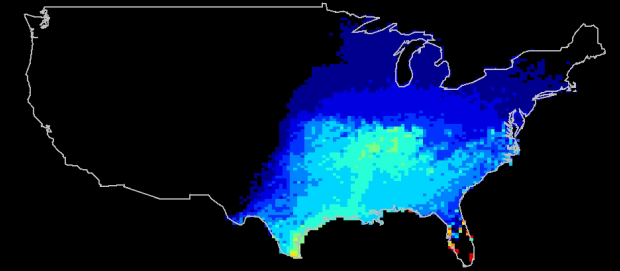
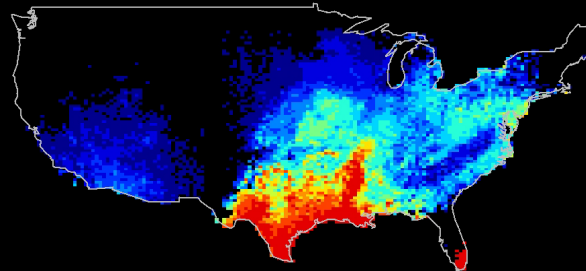
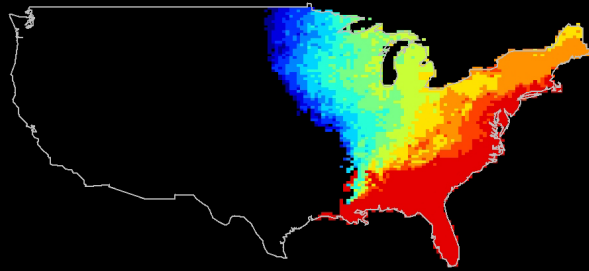
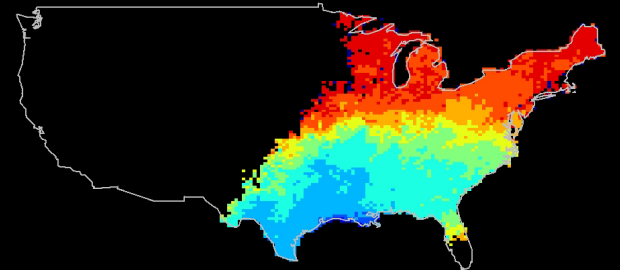
Palm Warbler



Northern Rough-winged Swallow



Ruby-throated Hummingbird







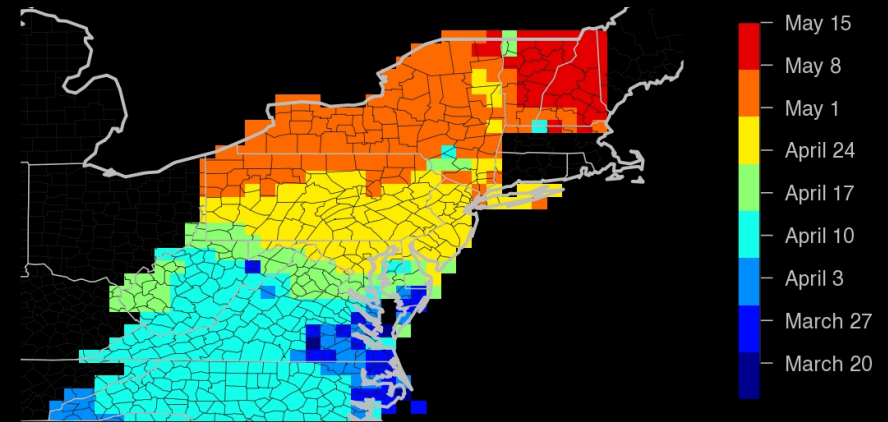
# Environmental Cues of Migration

Include spatiotemporally varying covariates to study environmental cues of migration timing: NDVI

## Questions

1. Is Red-eyed Vireo migration timing associated with NDVI?
2. If so, how is migration timing, direction, and speed affected by NDVI?

Spring Arrival Dates





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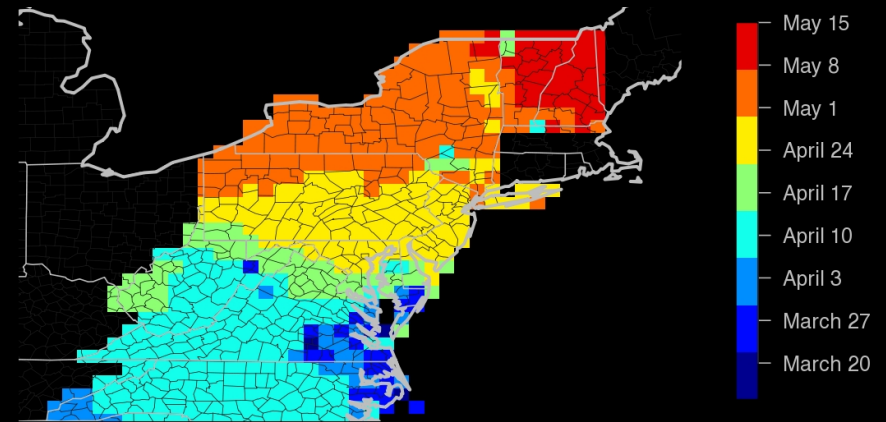
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## Experiment

1. Fit STEM with NDVI predictor
2. Advance “greening dates” by 14 days

Spring Arrival Dates





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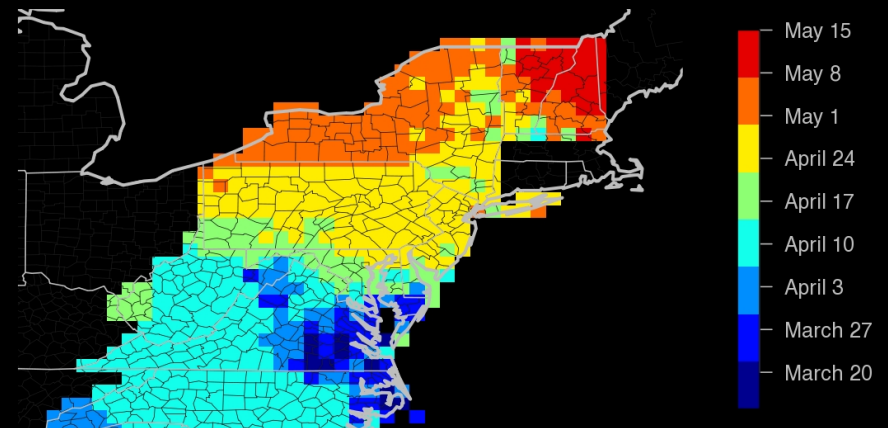
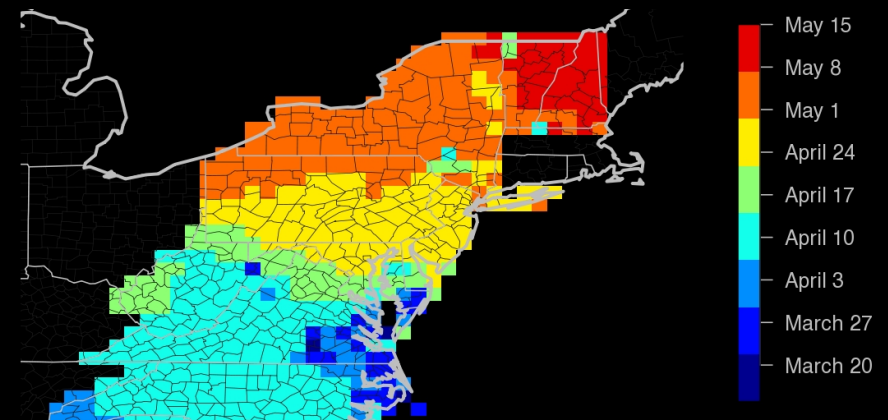
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Spring Arrival Dates



Spring Arrival Dates with Advanced Greening



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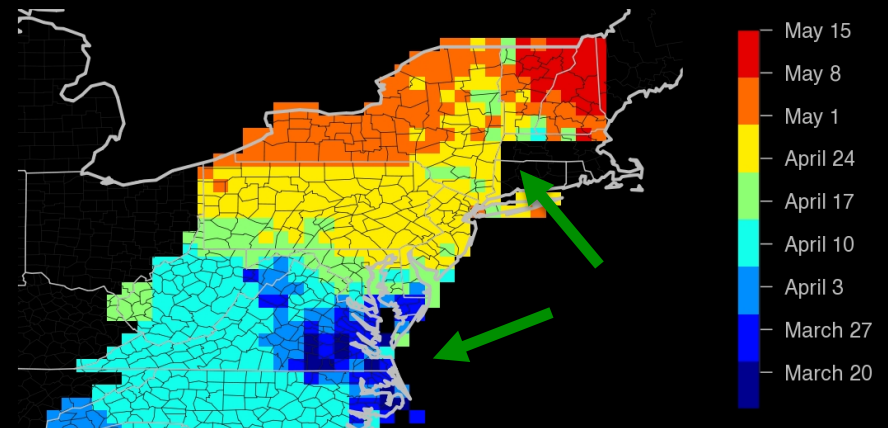
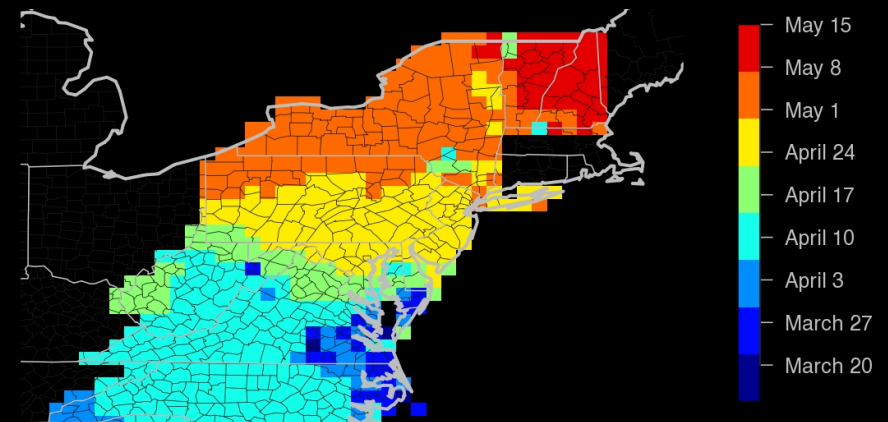
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Spring Arrival Dates



Spring Arrival Dates with Advanced Greening

# Overview

- Exploratory Dynamic Spatiotemporal Modeling
- Automatically adapts to many dynamic processes
- Multi (bi)–scale approach

## Next Steps

- Replicate over Years to explore inter-annual differences
- Improve Validation Methods – Spatial & Temporal correlation
- Identify & control sources of bias
  - Spatial sampling bias
  - Habitat sampling bias
  - Temporal variation in detection rates
  - Etc.
- Expand NDVI analysis
  - More species – compare different migration strategies
  - VI & Partial Dependence for NDVI
  - Explore other ST covariates

