

The Marvels of Migration

Chris Gunter



TRAVIS
AUDUBON

Listen. Look. And Learn.

Northern Mockingbird



Cardinal



Blue Jay



Black-crested Titmouse



Carolina Wren



© James A. Giroux

House Finch



Carolina Chickadee



© James A. Giroux

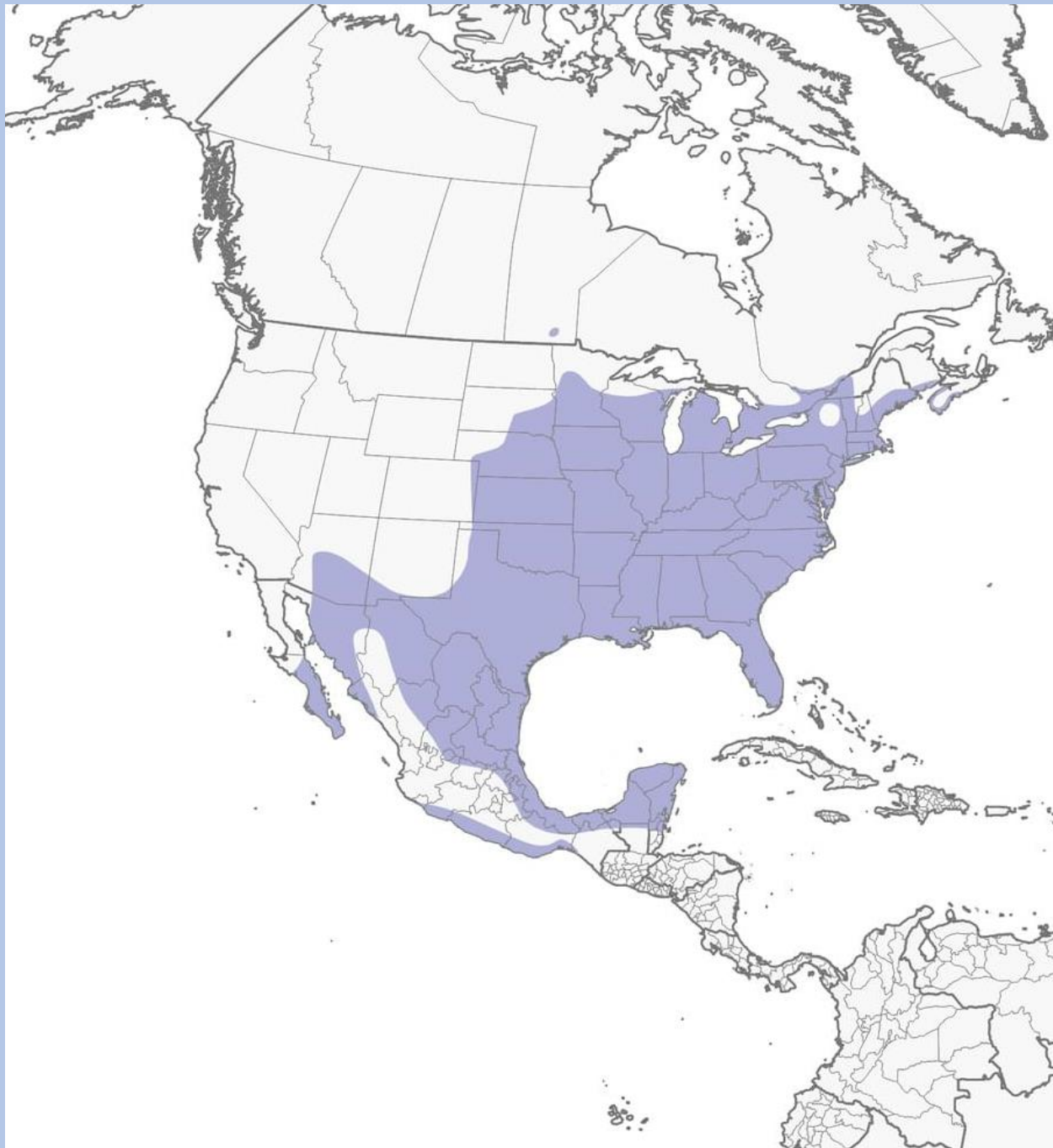
Black Vulture



*What do all of these
birds have in common?*

*They live here all the
time.*





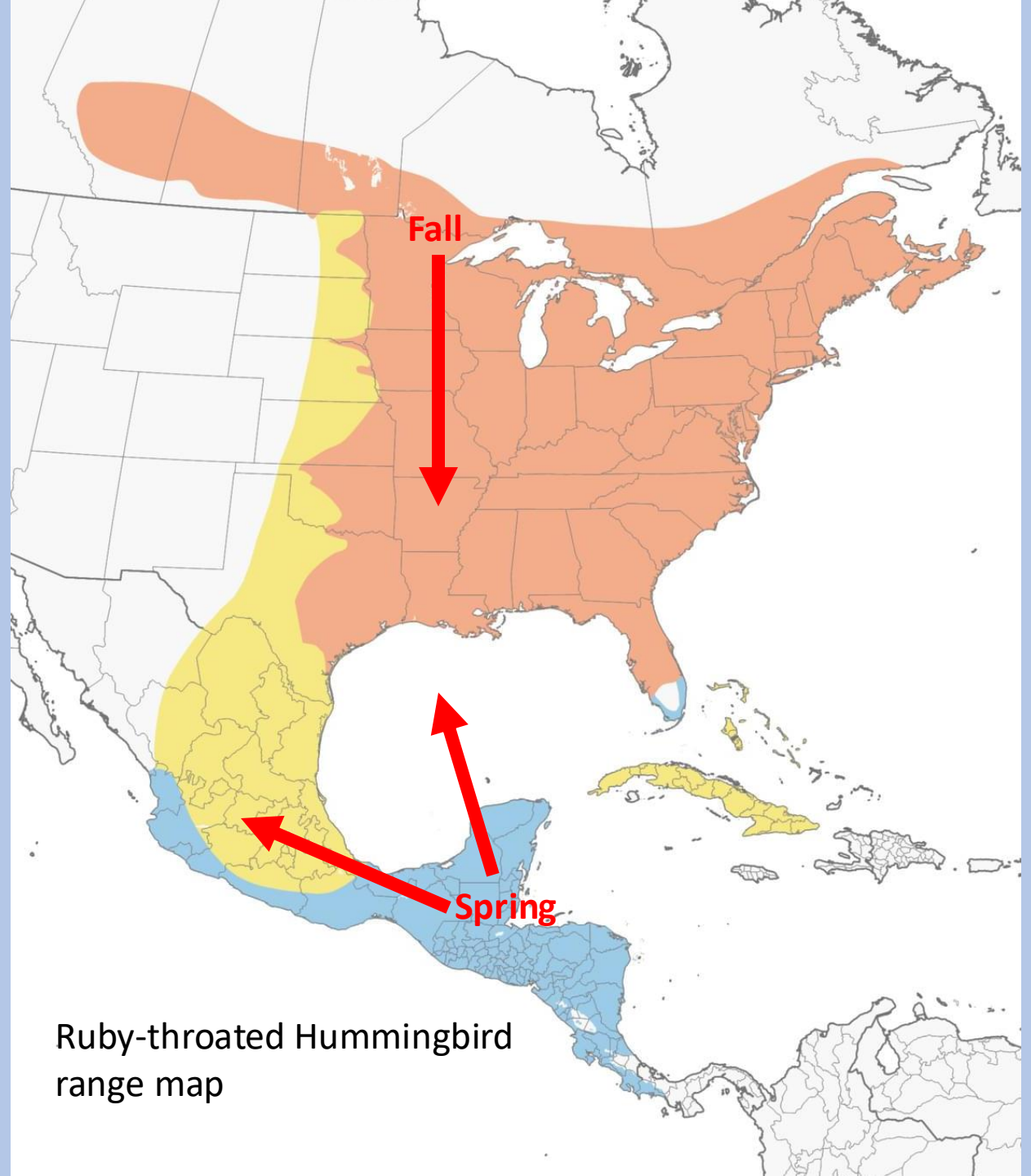
Ruby-throated Hummingbird



What is migration?

*The periodic
movement of large
numbers of animals
from one place to
another*

- About 650 species of breeding birds in North America
- About 350 migrate long distance
- About *2 billion birds* migrate through Texas each year!

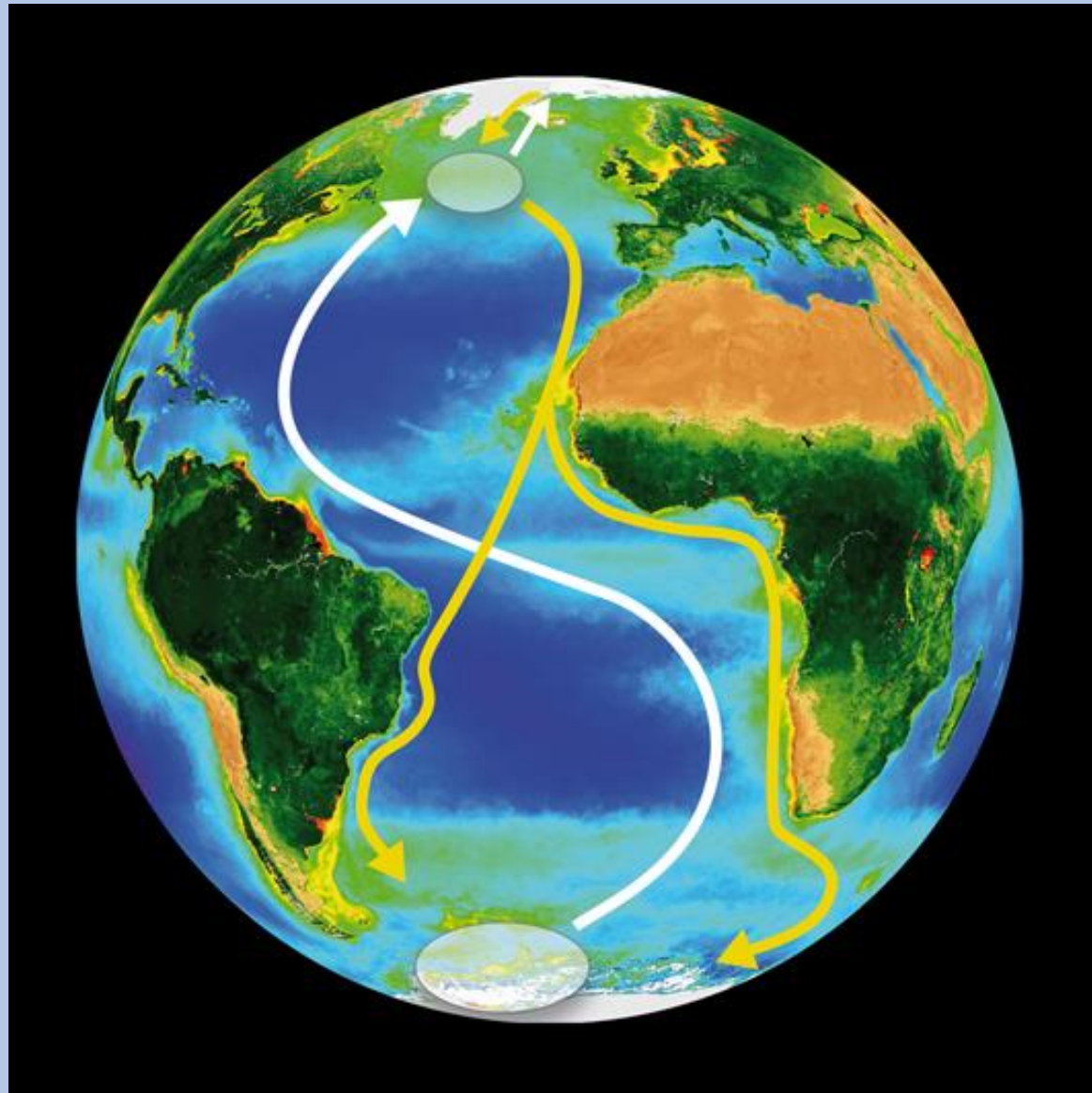


Ruby-throated Hummingbird
range map

Arctic Tern



*25,000 miles a
year!!!*



Why do birds migrate?





Cedar Waxwings

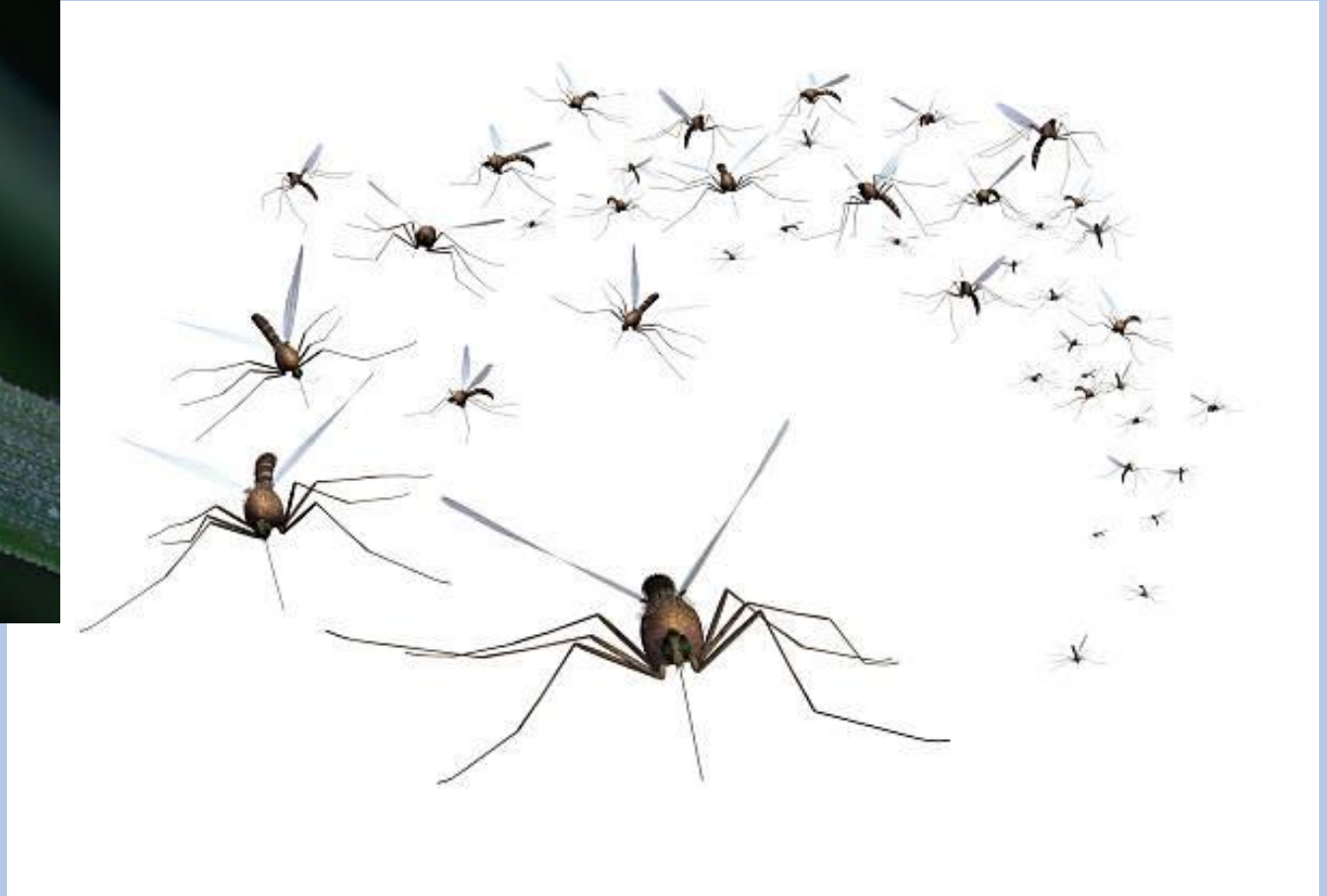


American Robin



Yellow-billed Cuckoo







How do birds know **when** to migrate?







Internal clock

Length of day



Changes in food supply





Lower temps



Wind



How do birds navigate?



THE ARGYLE SWEATER

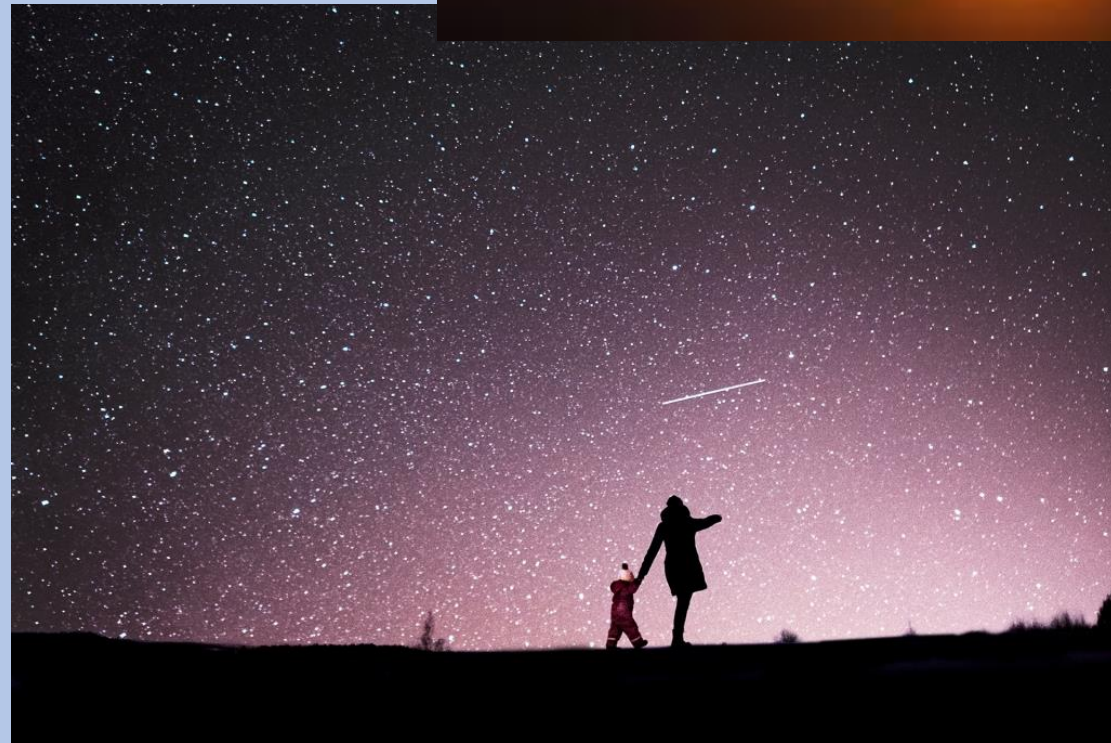
HEAD SOUTH, THEN HEAD
SOUTH, THEN KEEP HEADING
SOUTH FOR 5,000 MILES.

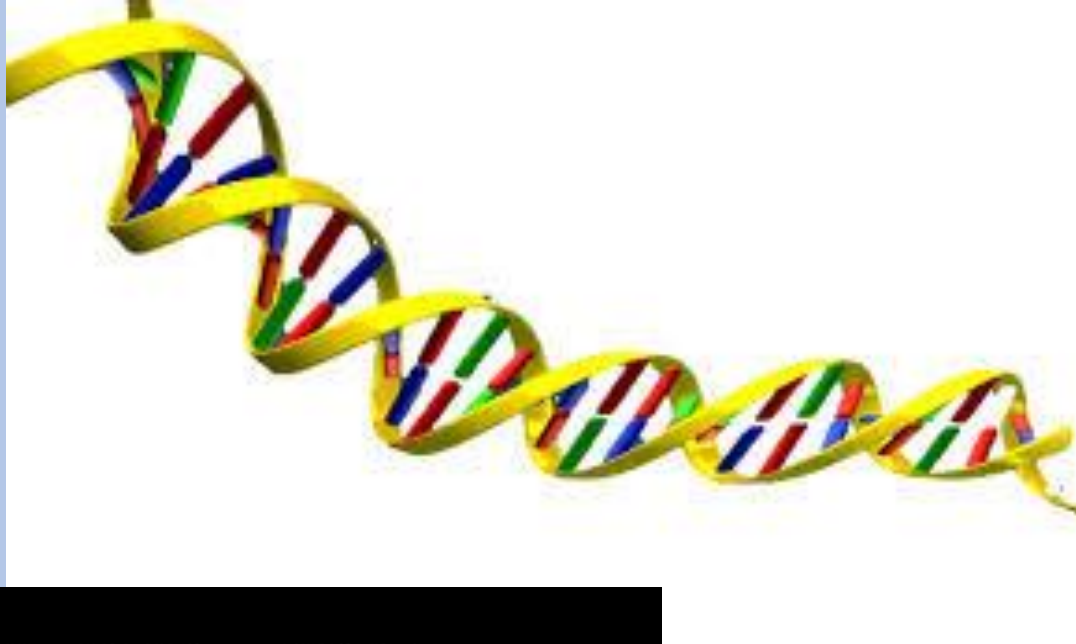
IS THAT
THING
REALLY
NECESSARY?



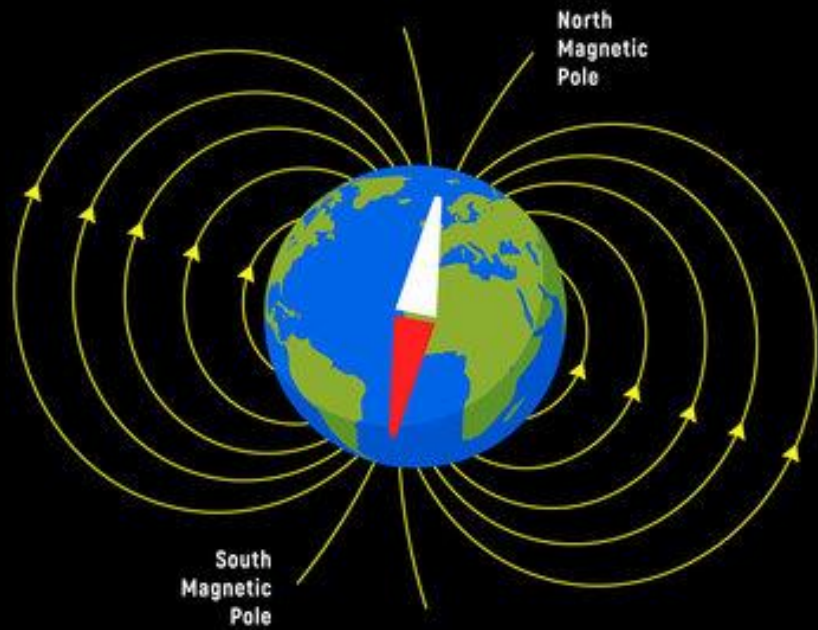
A person wearing a red hooded cloak is walking away from the camera on a paved road. The road is flanked by trees and a guardrail, and the scene is shrouded in a thick fog. The person's face is obscured by a black silhouette.

MYSTERY





The Earth's Magnetic Field

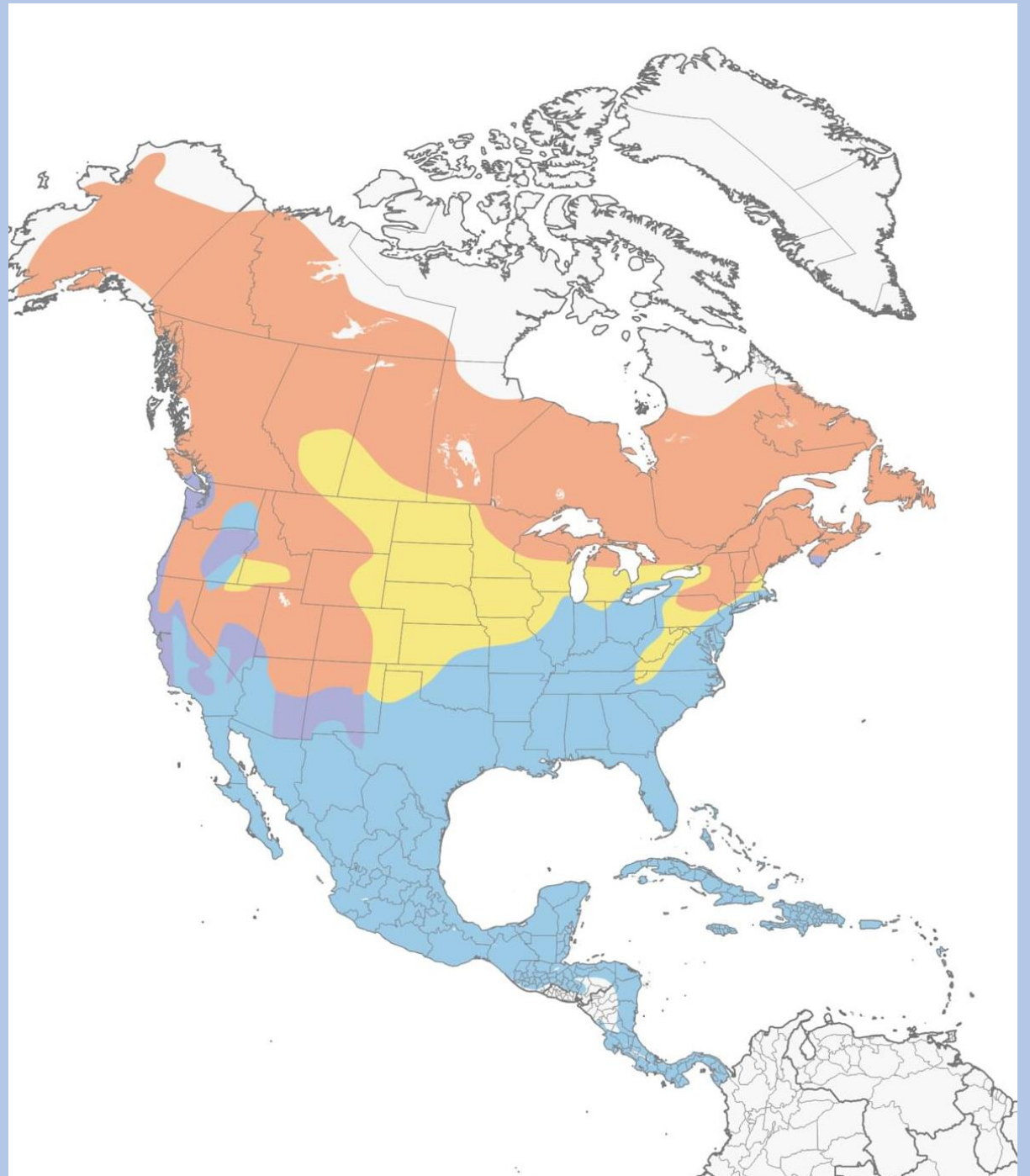


Winter Visitors

Yellow-rumped Warbler

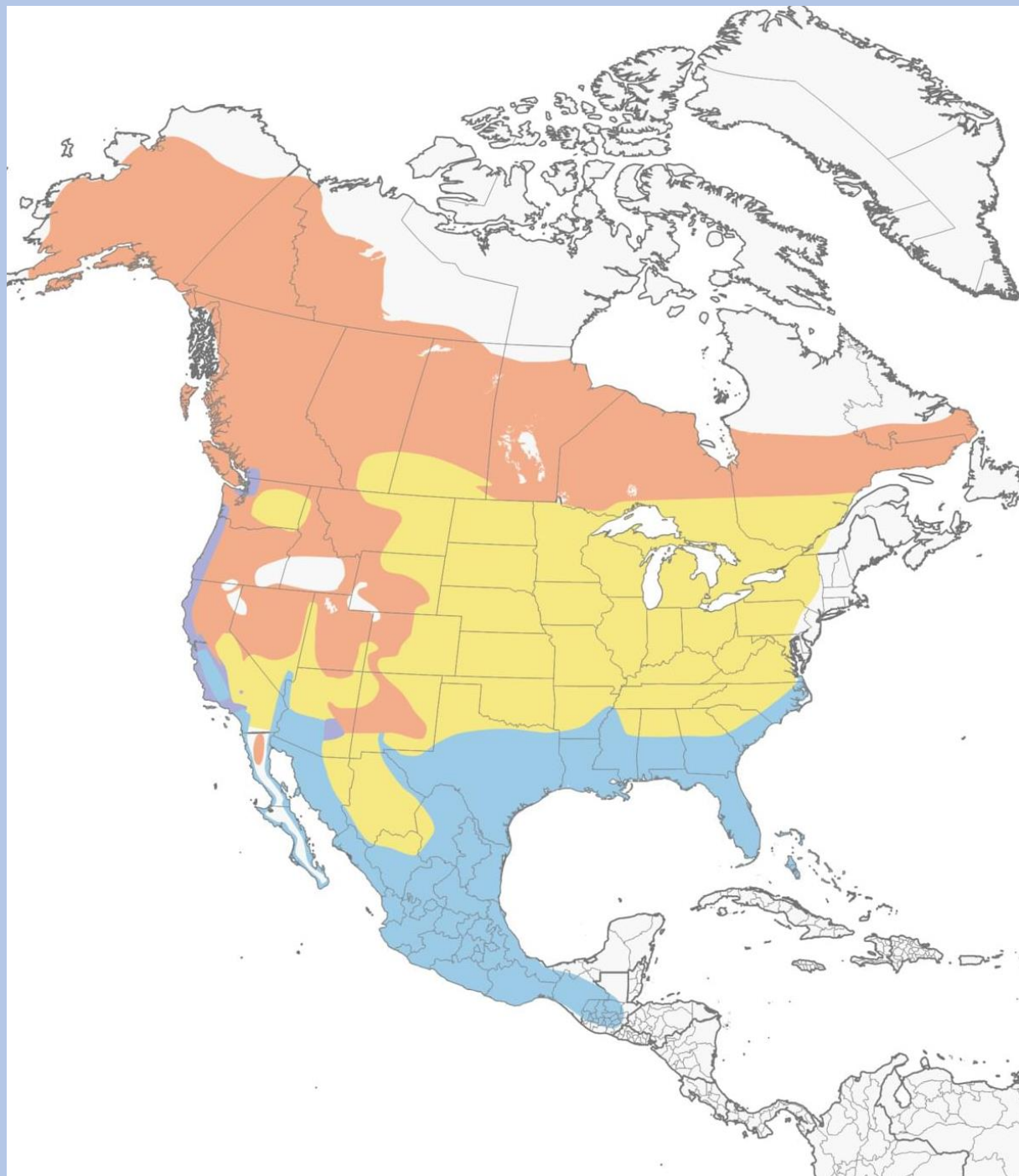


Yellow-rumped Warbler range map



Orange-crowned Warbler



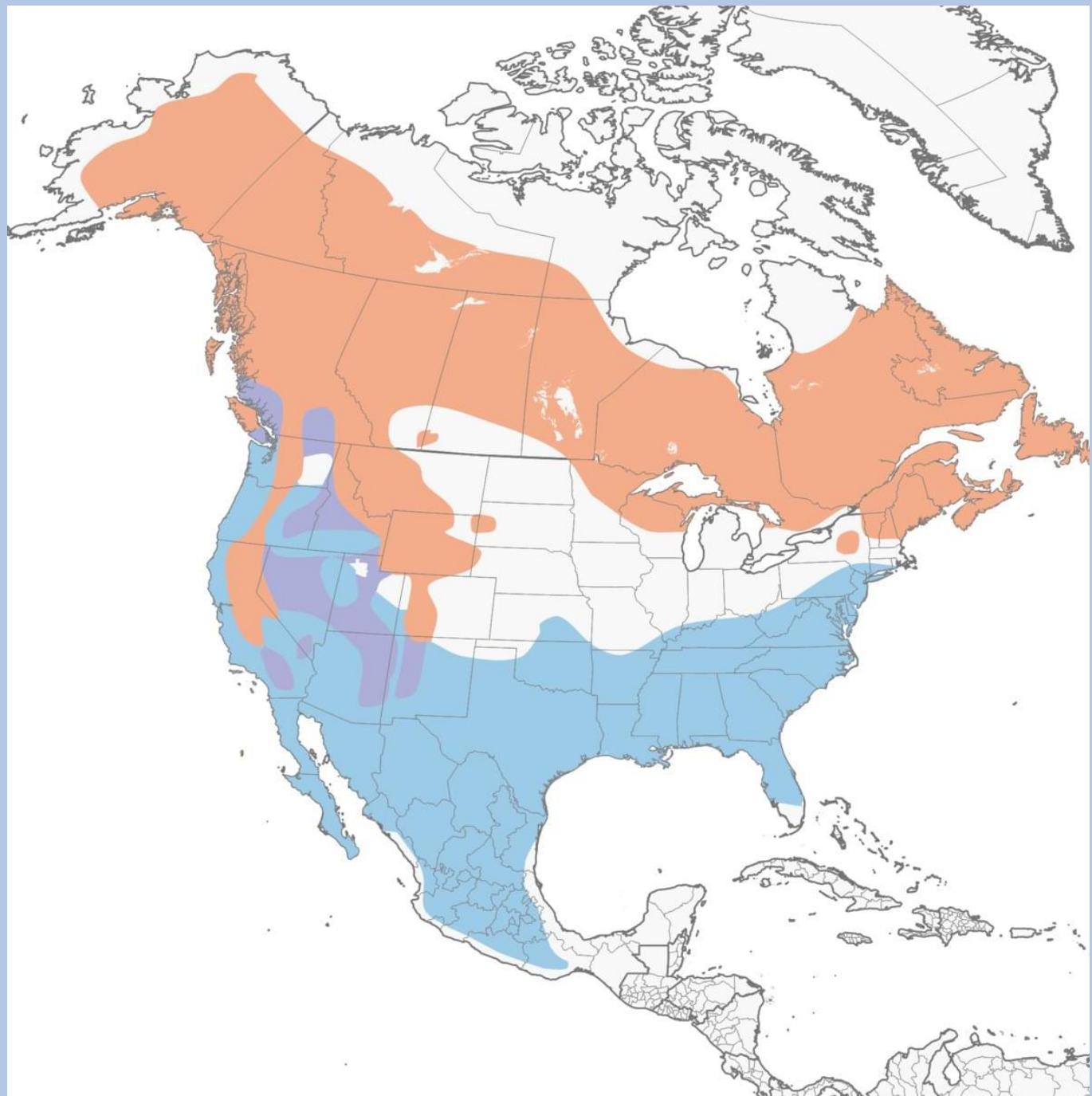


Orange-crowned Warbler
range map

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

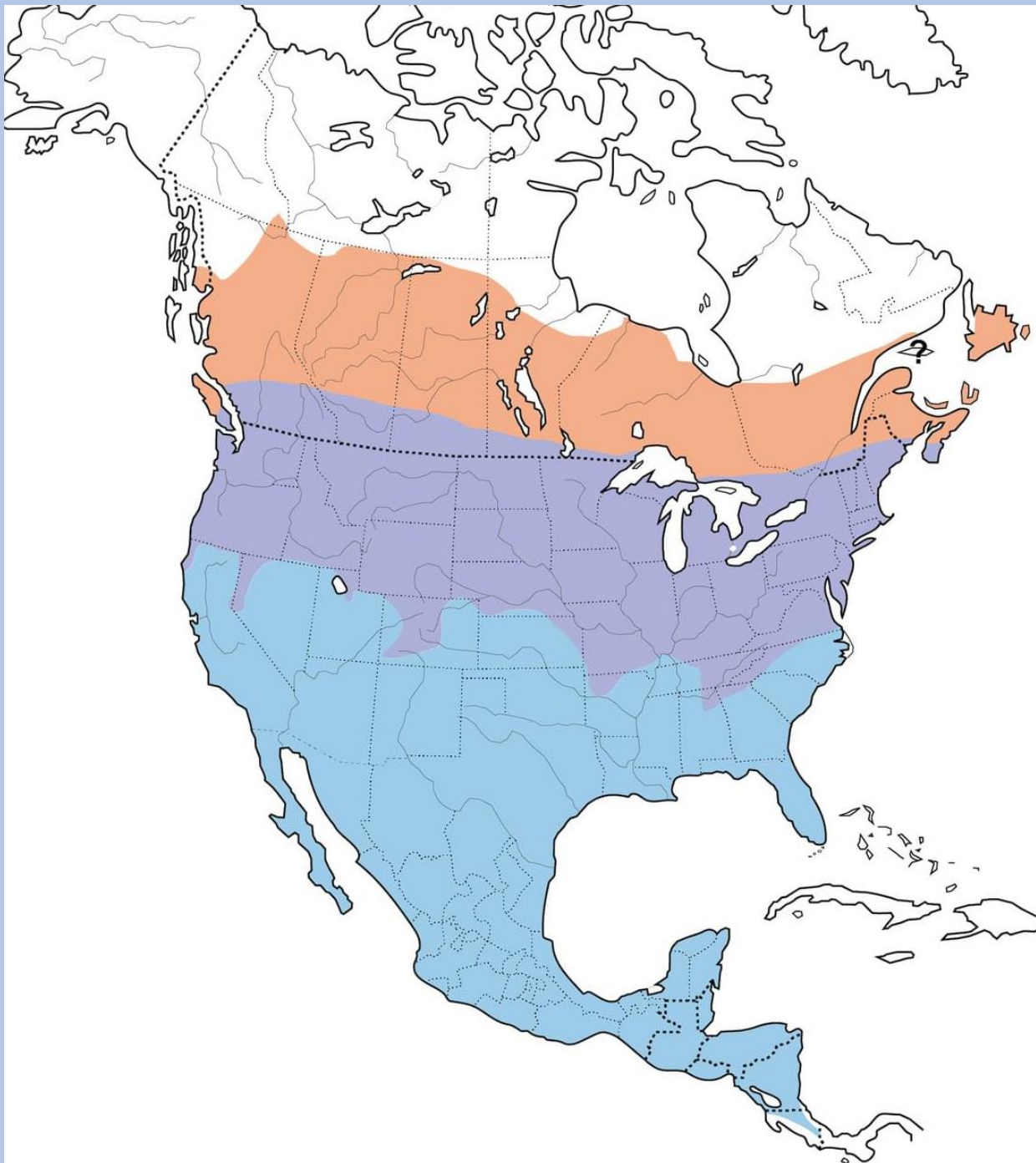


Ruby-crowned Kinglet range map



Cedar Waxwing



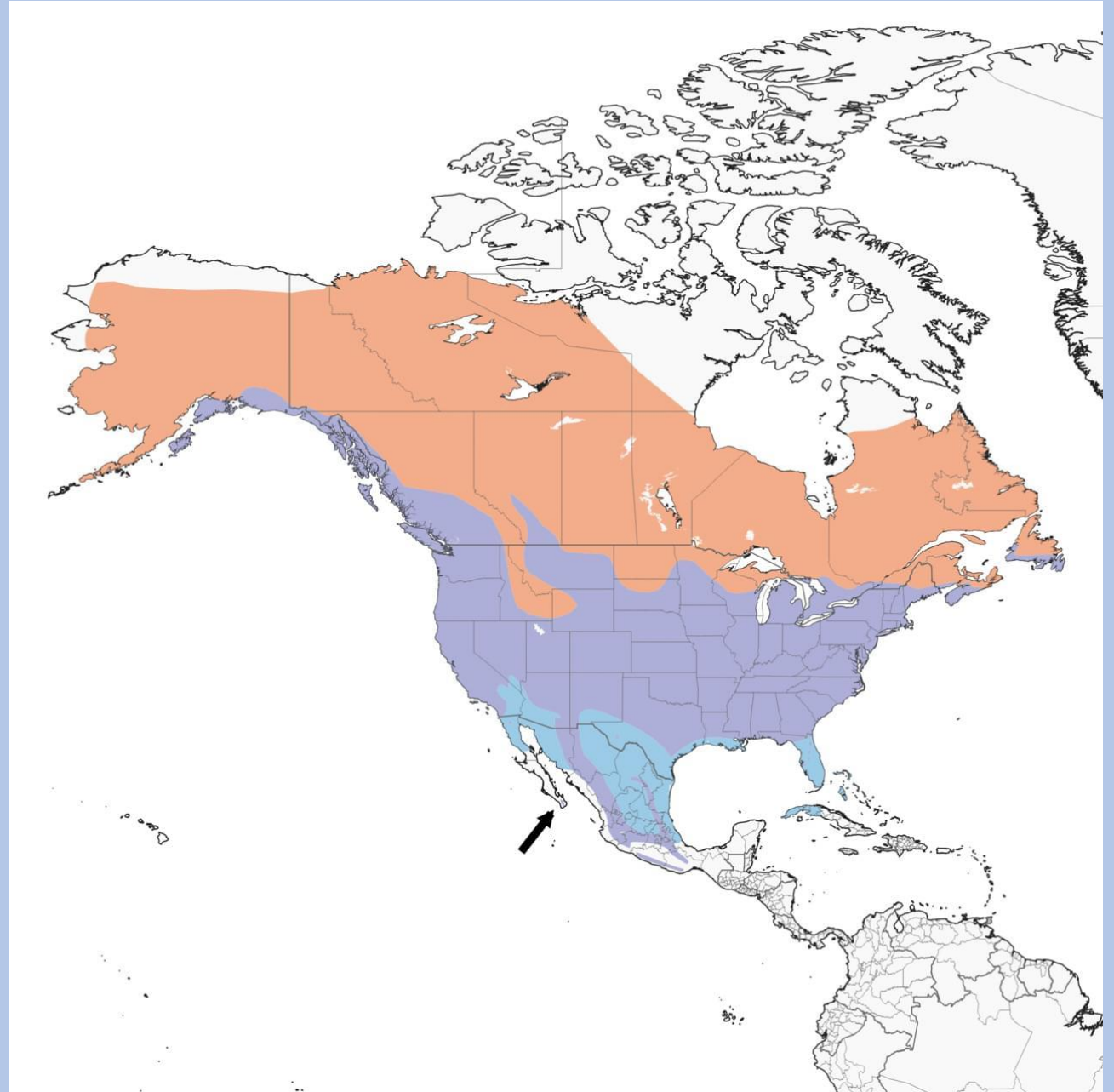


Cedar Waxwing
range map

American Robin



American Robin range map



Blue-winged Teal



Green-winged Teal



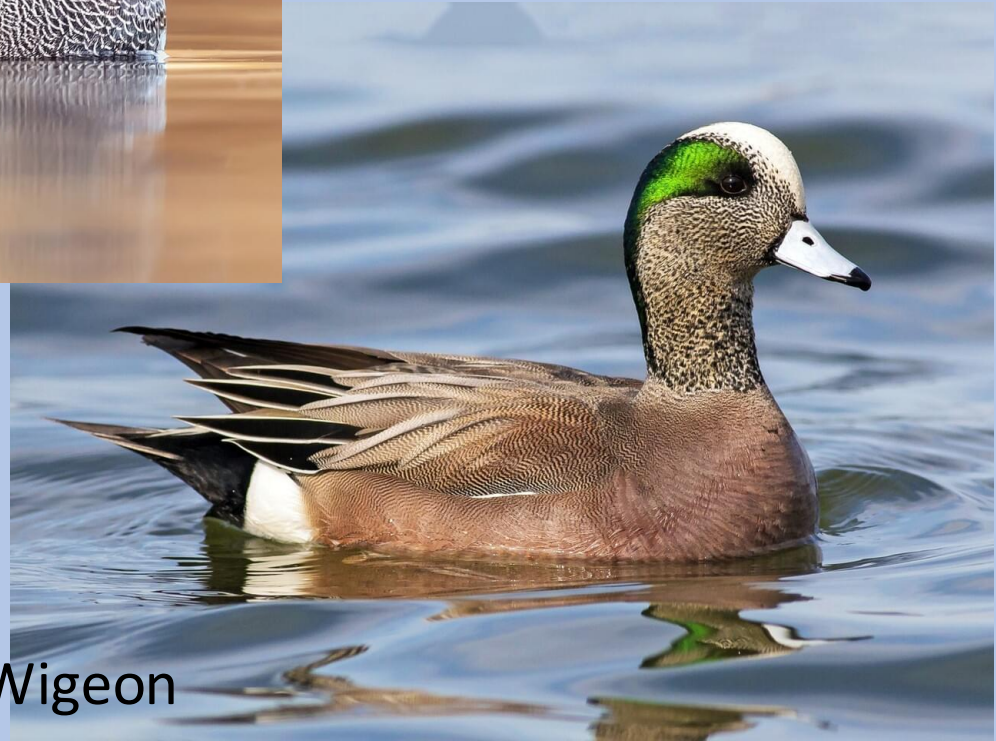
Gadwall



Northern Shoveler

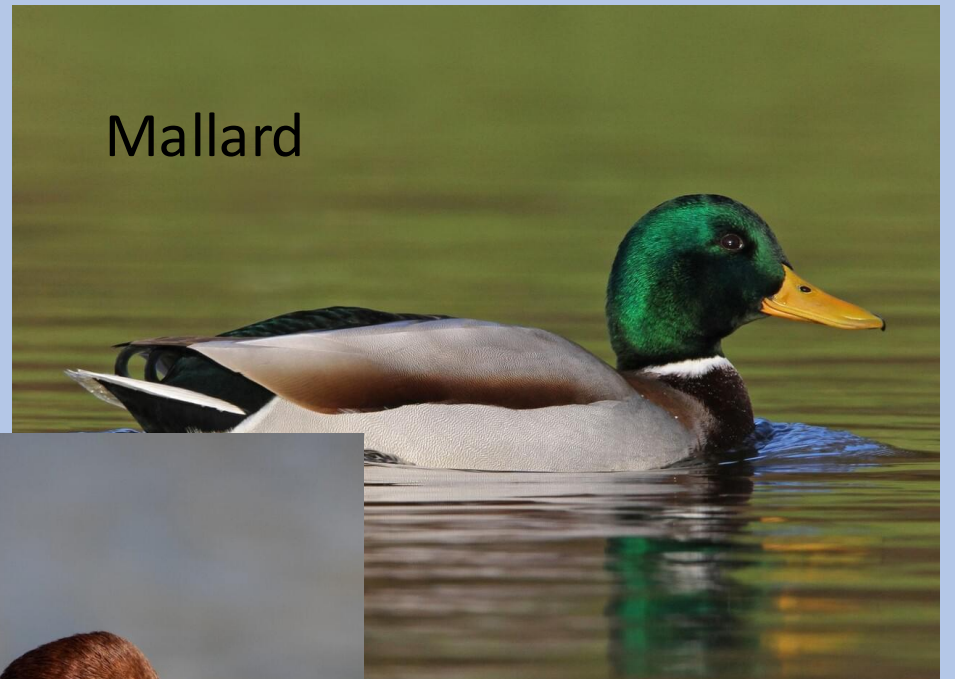


American Wigeon





Northern Pintail



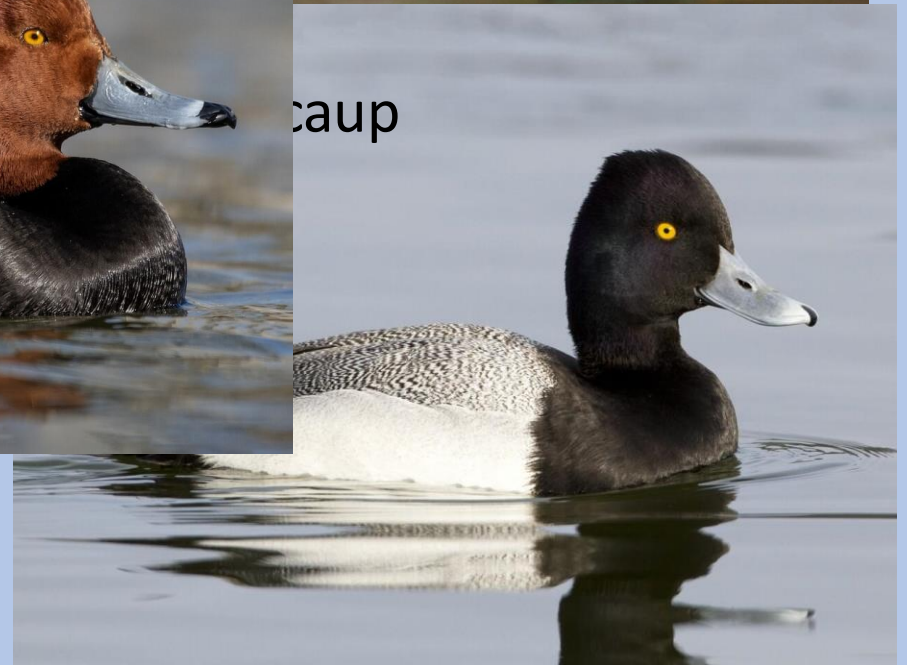
Mallard



Redhead

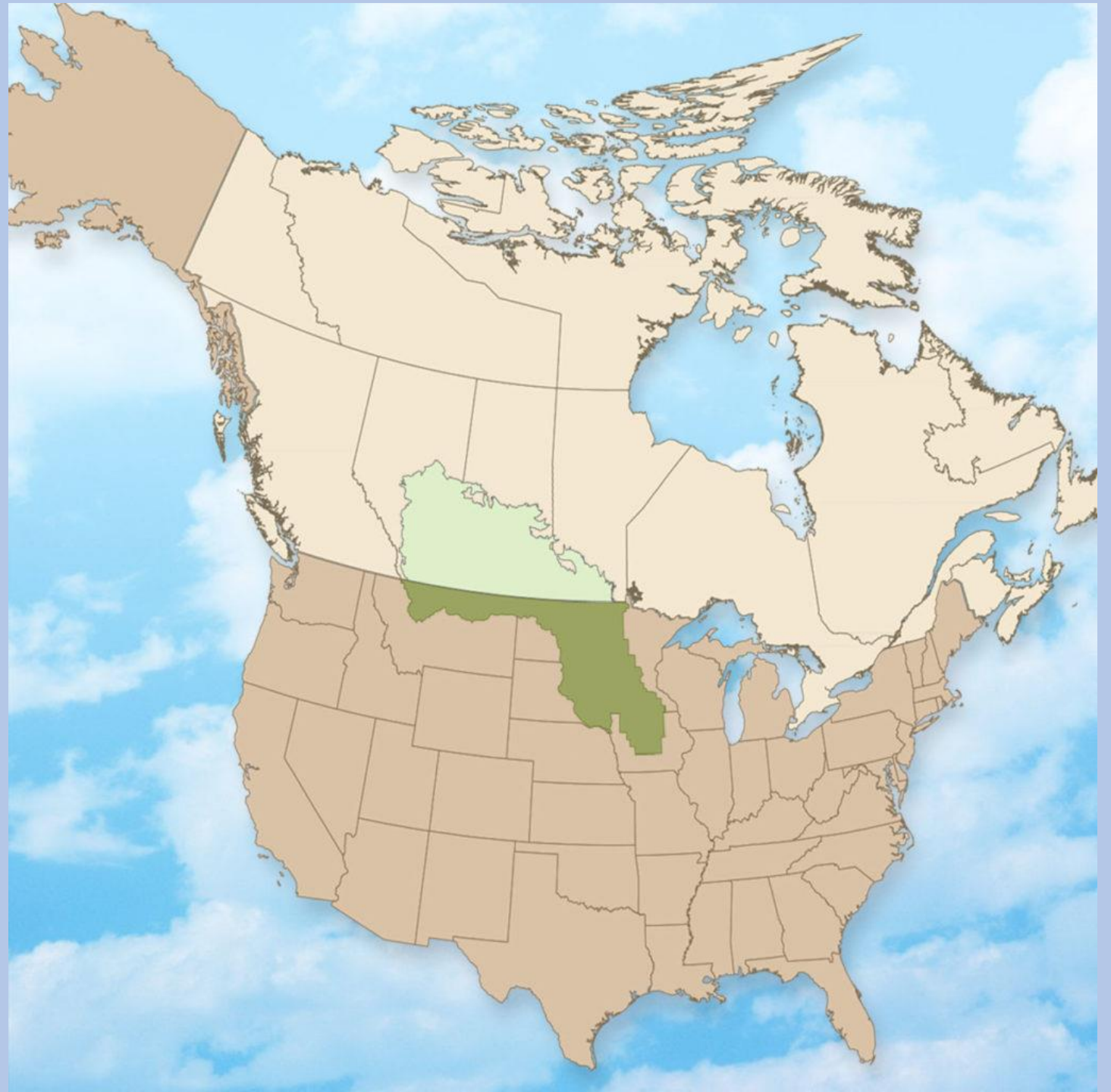


Canvasback



Scaup

Prairie Pothole Region





Song Sparrow

Savannah Sparrow



Harris's Sparrow

Lincoln's Sparrow





White-crowned Sparrow



White-throated Sparrow



Vesper Sparrow

Broad-tailed Hummingbird



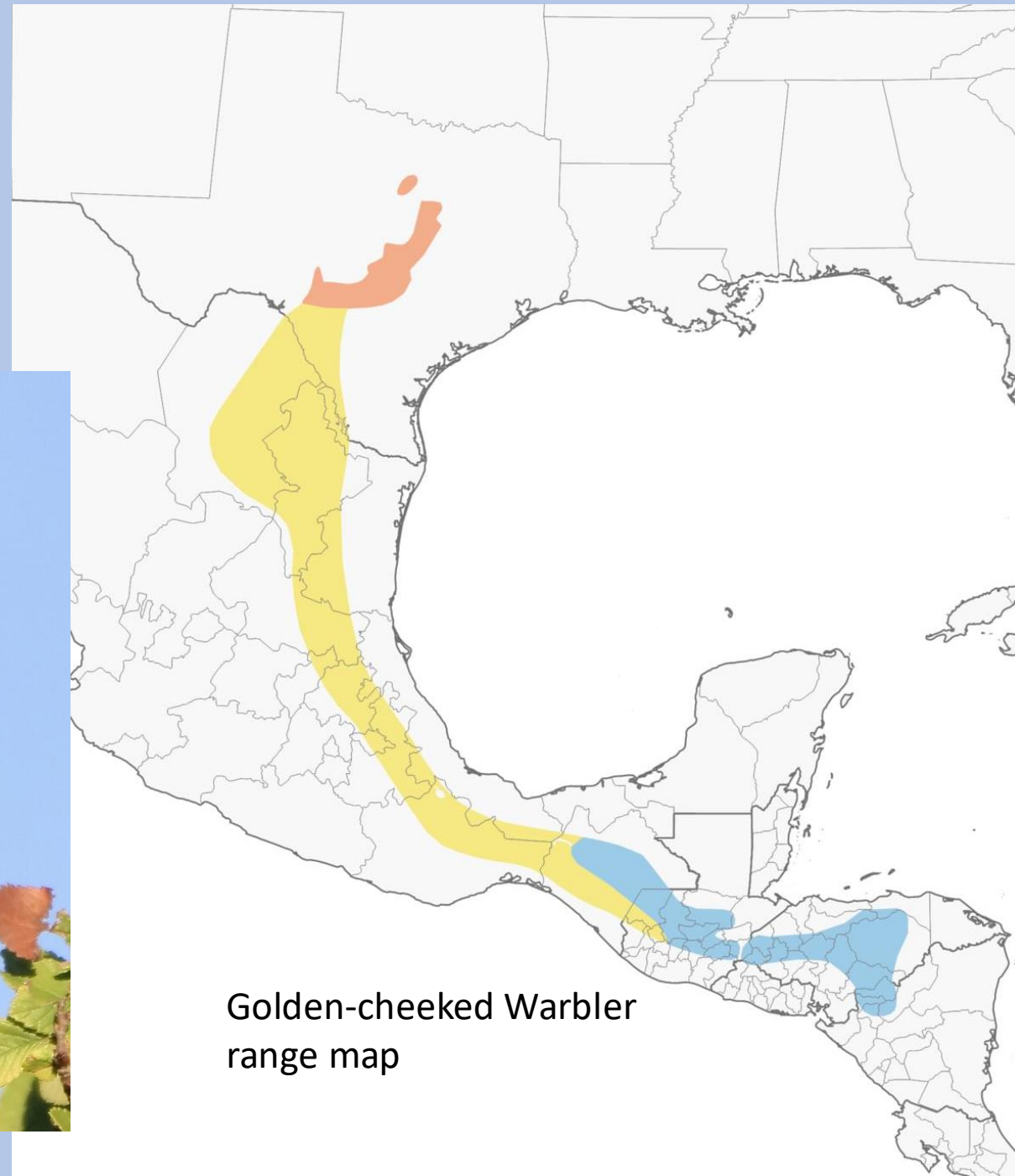
Broad-tailed Hummingbird range map



Summer Visitors

Golden-cheeked Warbler

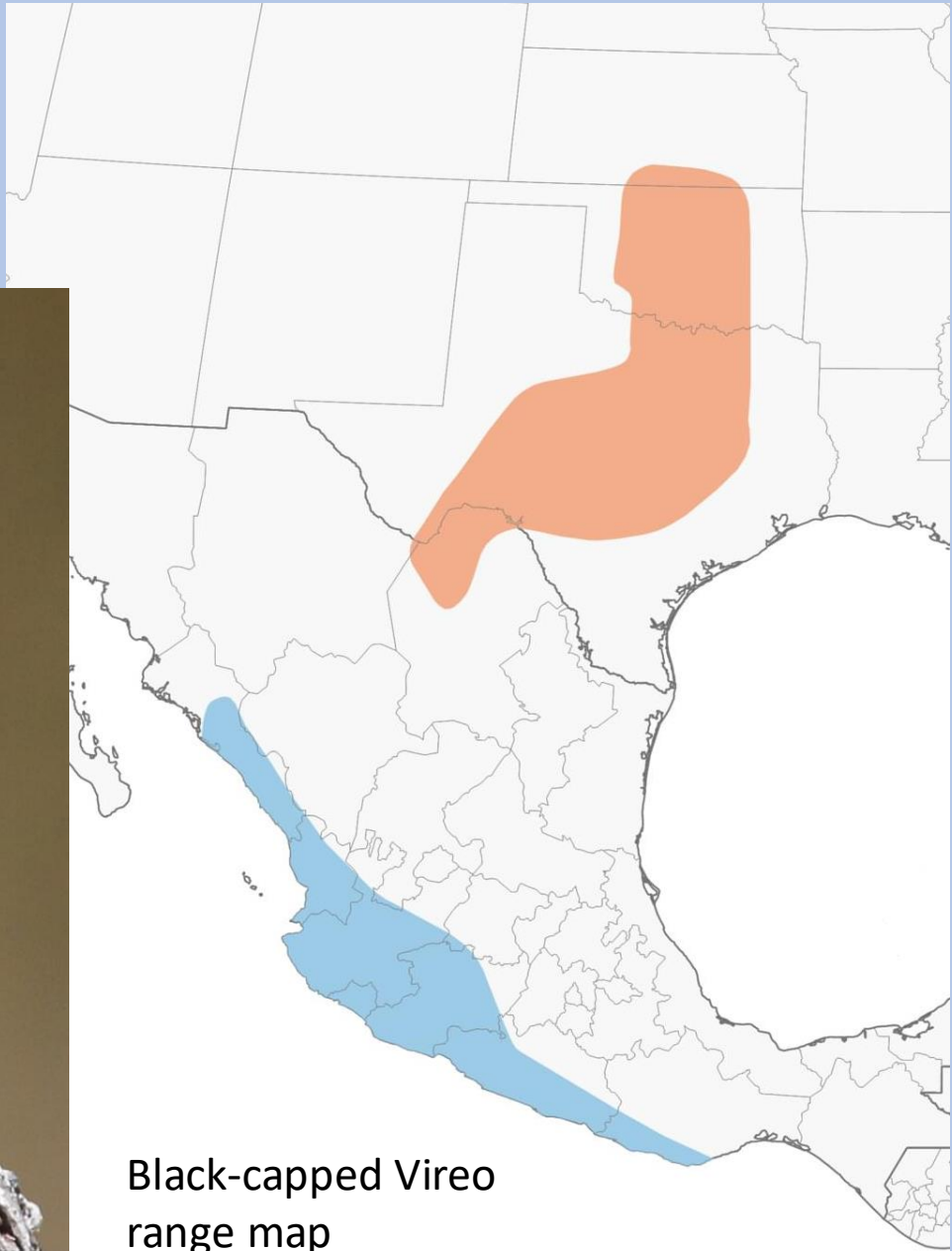




Golden-cheeked Warbler
range map

Black-capped Vireo

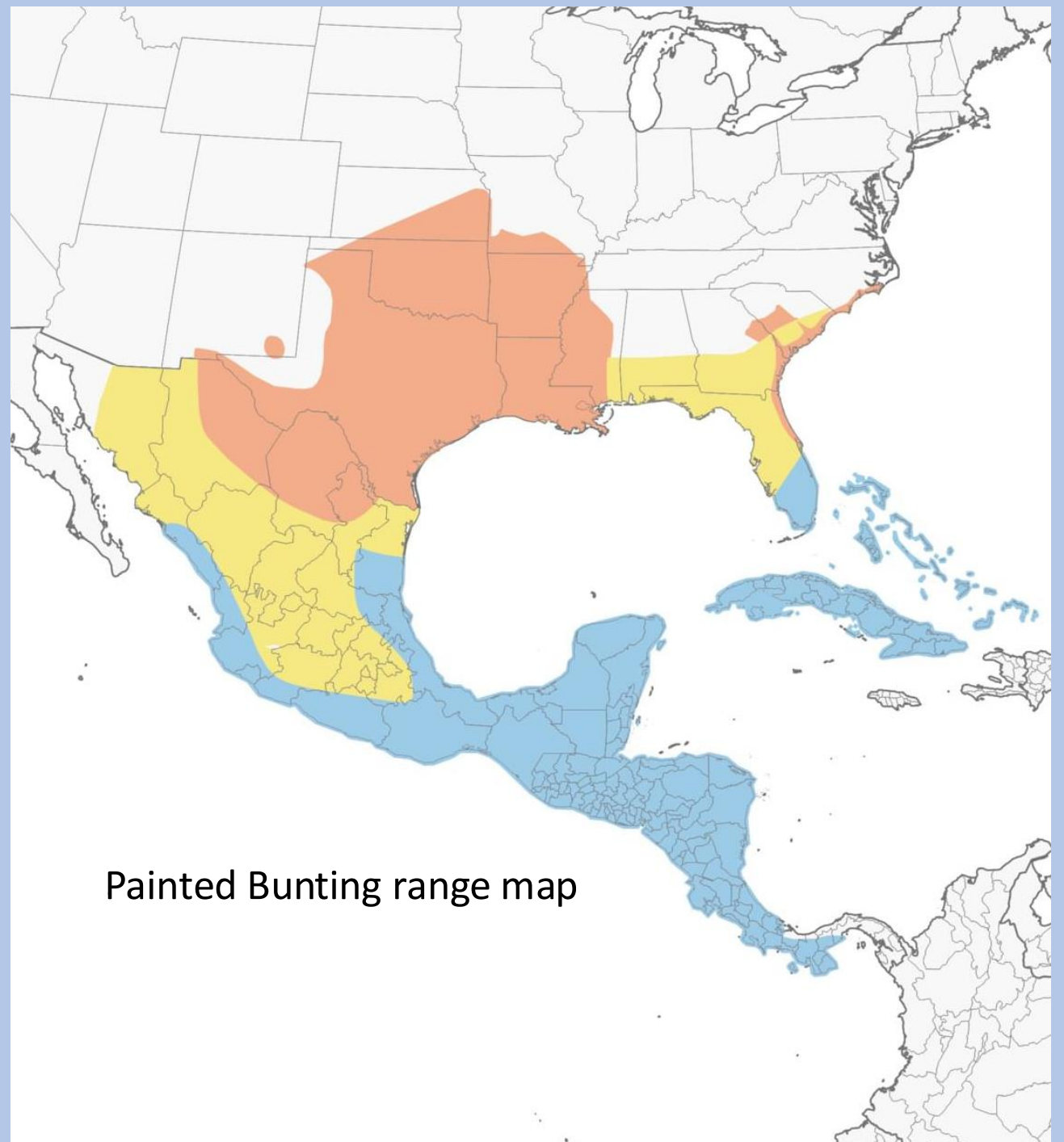




Black-capped Vireo
range map

Painted Bunting

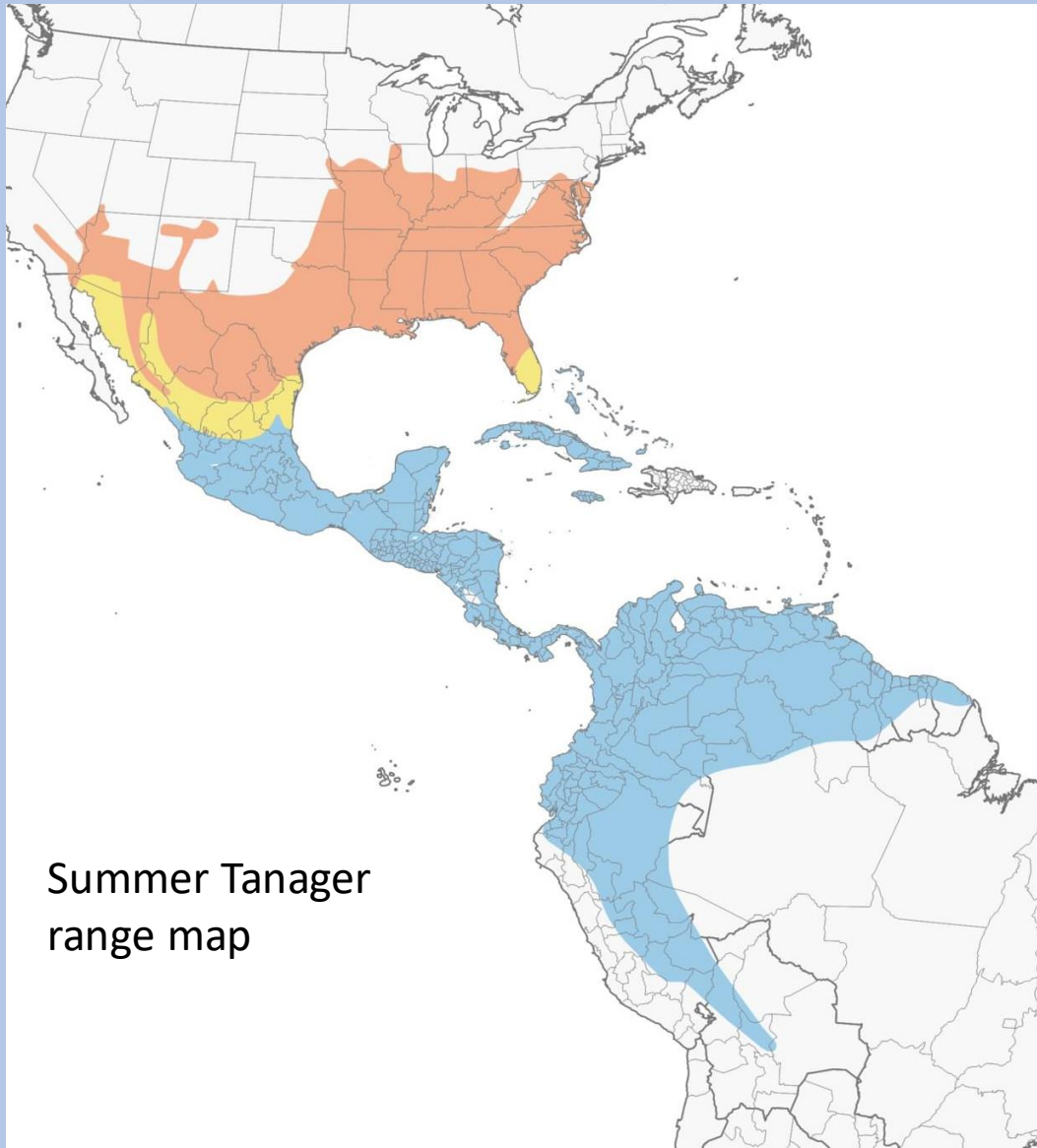




Painted Bunting range map

Summer Tanager

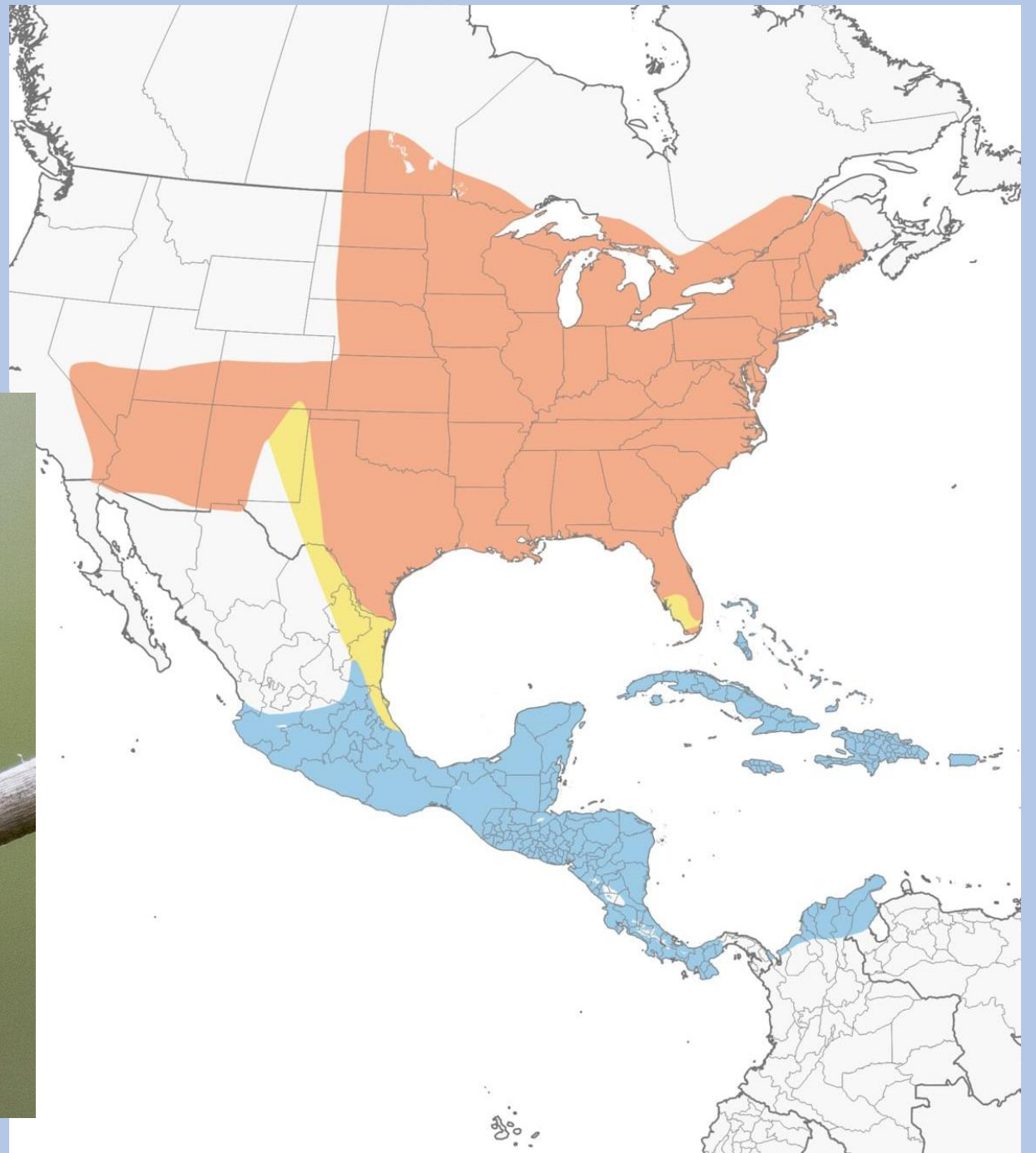




Indigo Bunting



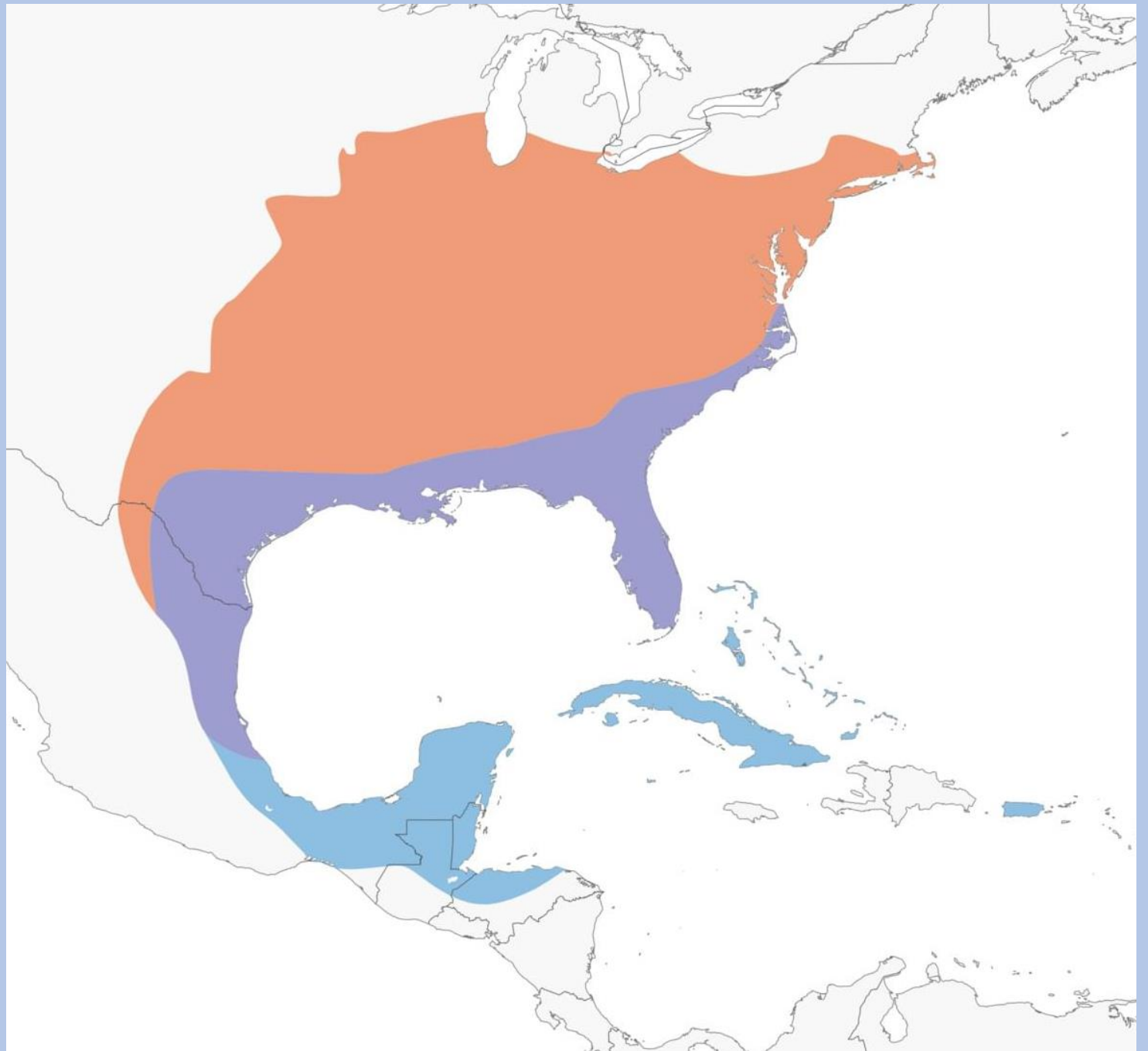
Indigo Bunting range map



White-eyed Vireo



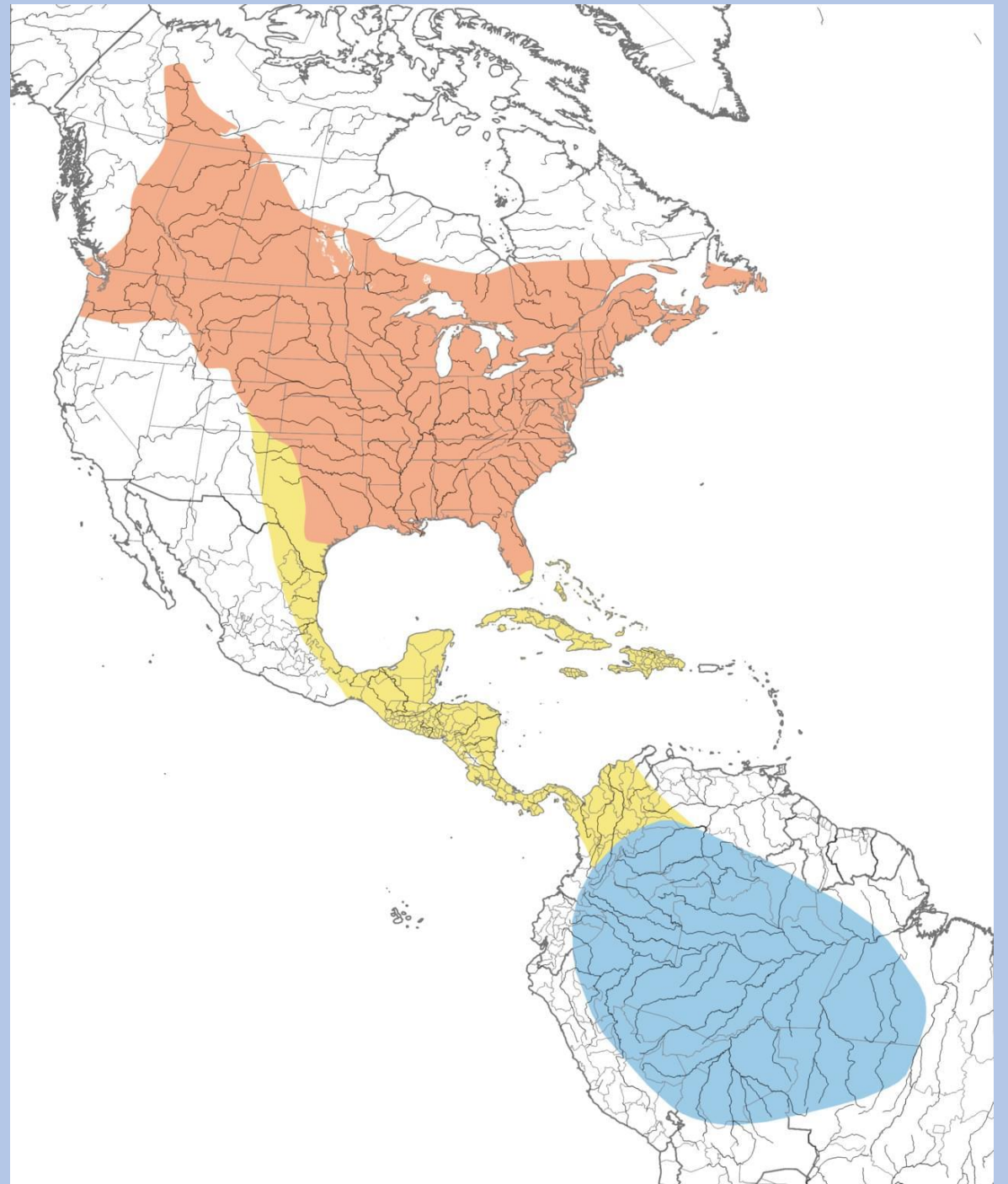
White-eyed Vireo range map



Red-eyed Vireo



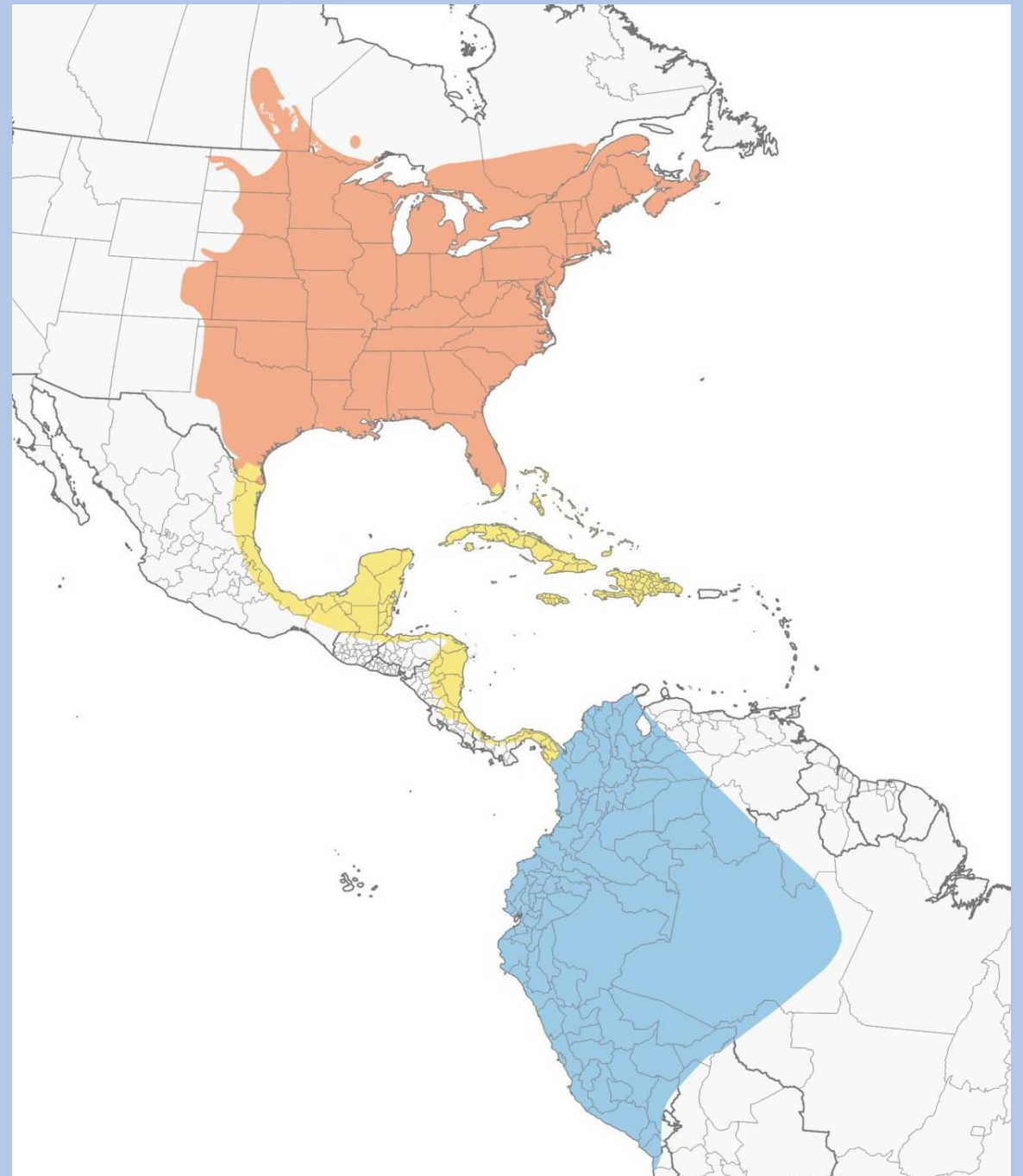
Red-eyed Vireo range map



Chimney Swift



Chimney Swift range map



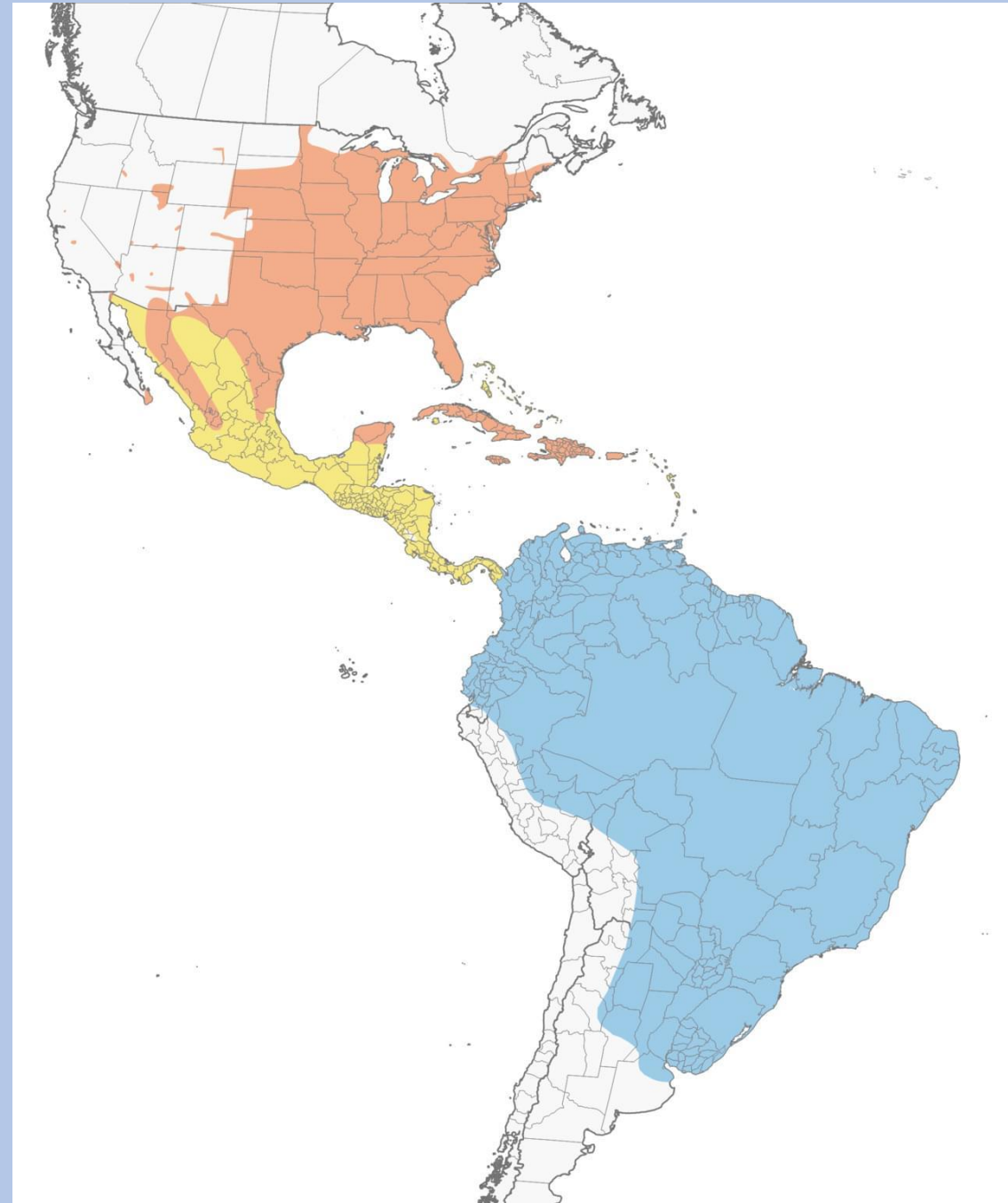




Yellow-Billed Cuckoo



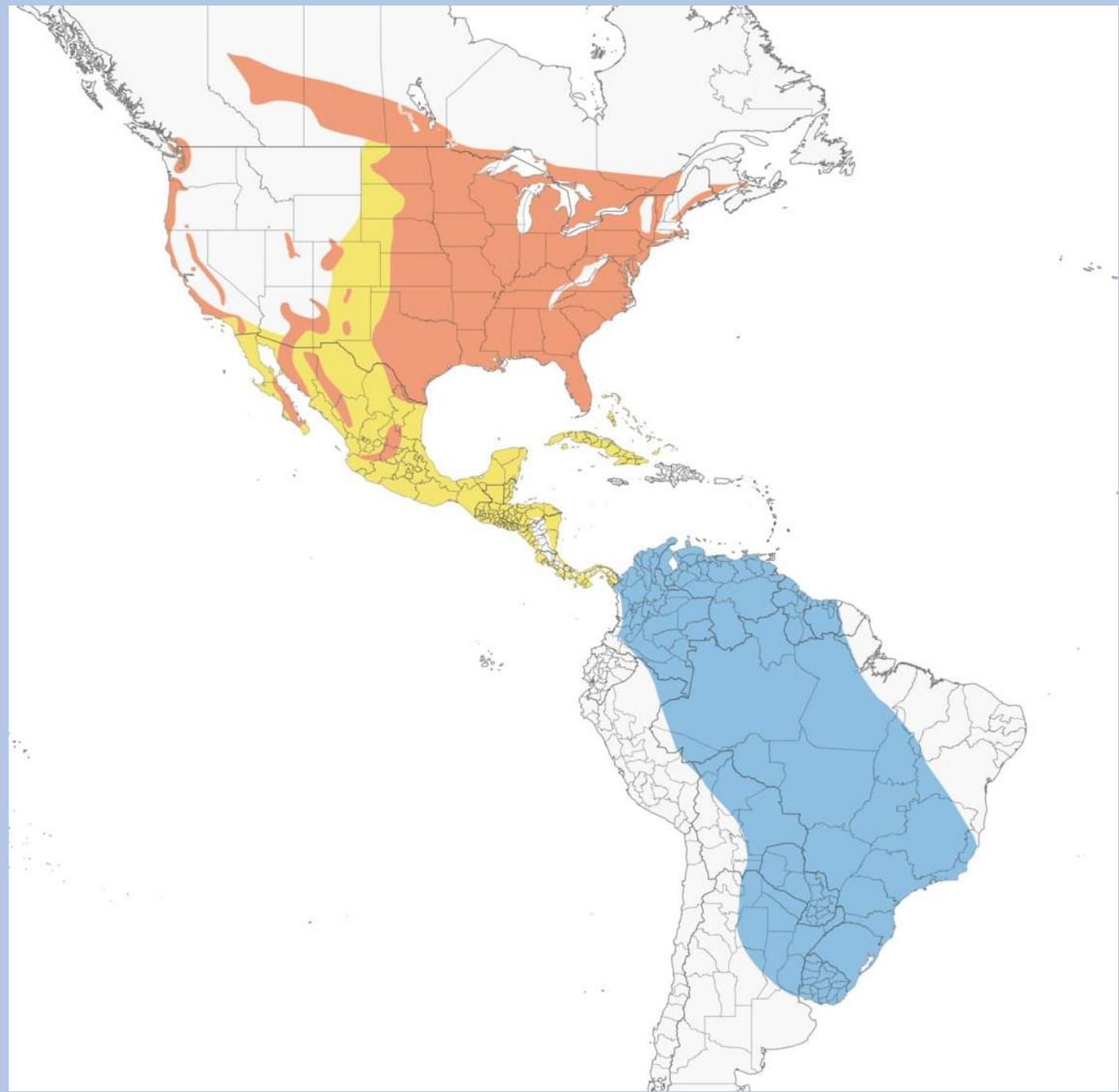
Yellow-billed Cuckoo range map



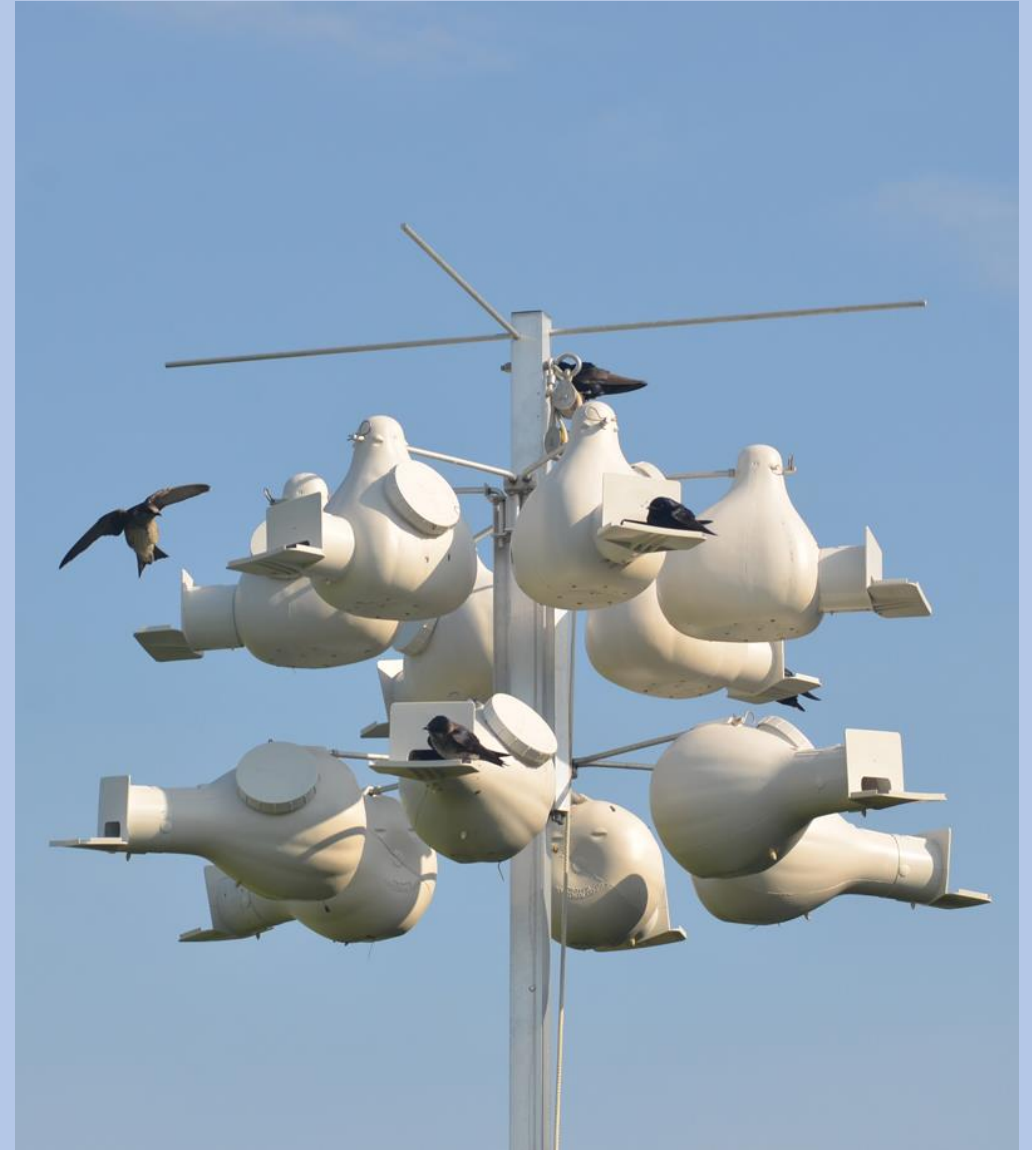
Purple Martin



Purple Martin range map



Purple Martins

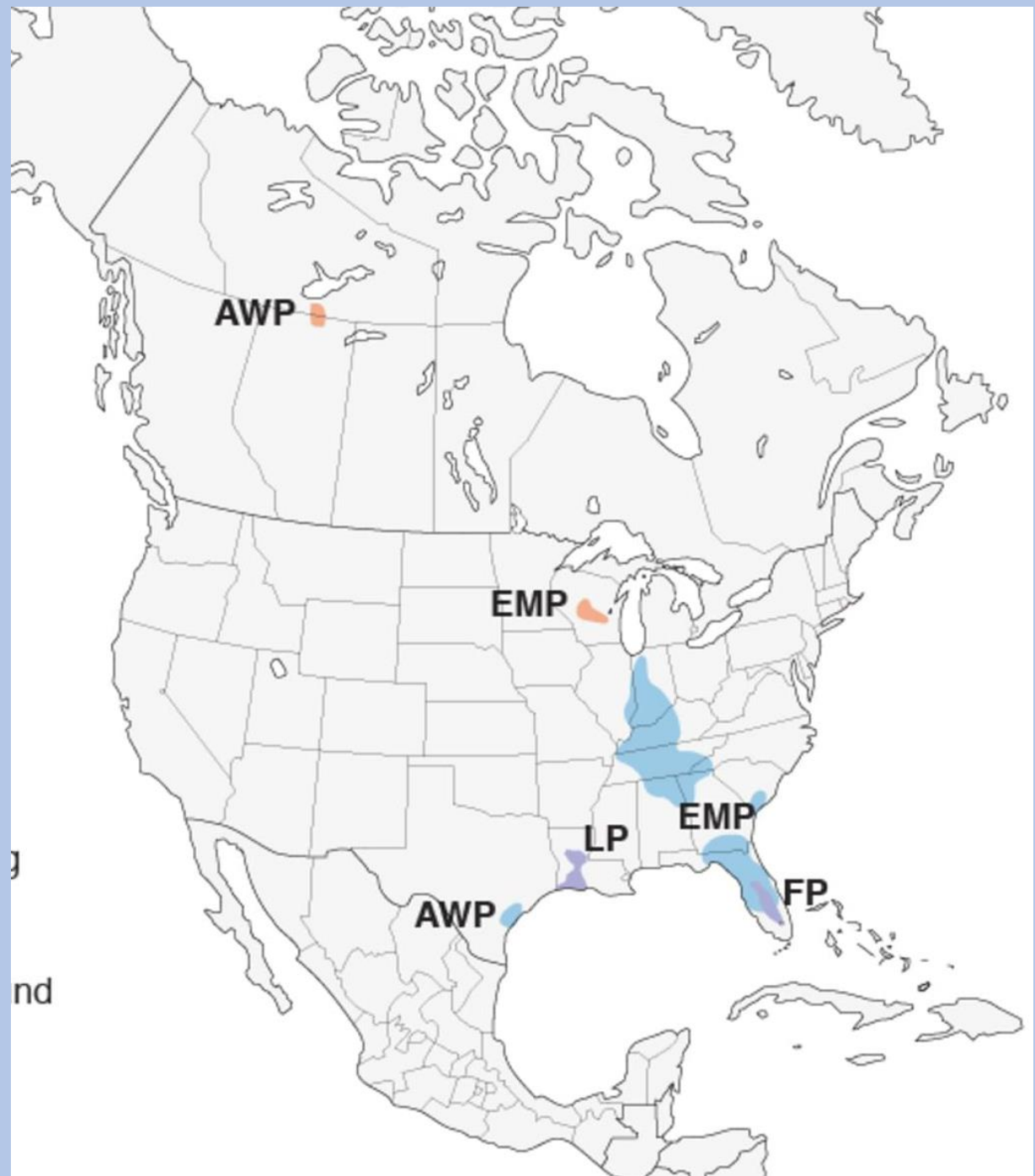


Passing Through

Whooping Crane



Whooping Crane range map



Blackburnian Warbler



Ovenbird



Chestnut-sided Warbler



White-rumped Sandpiper



When Are Birds Migrating Through Texas?

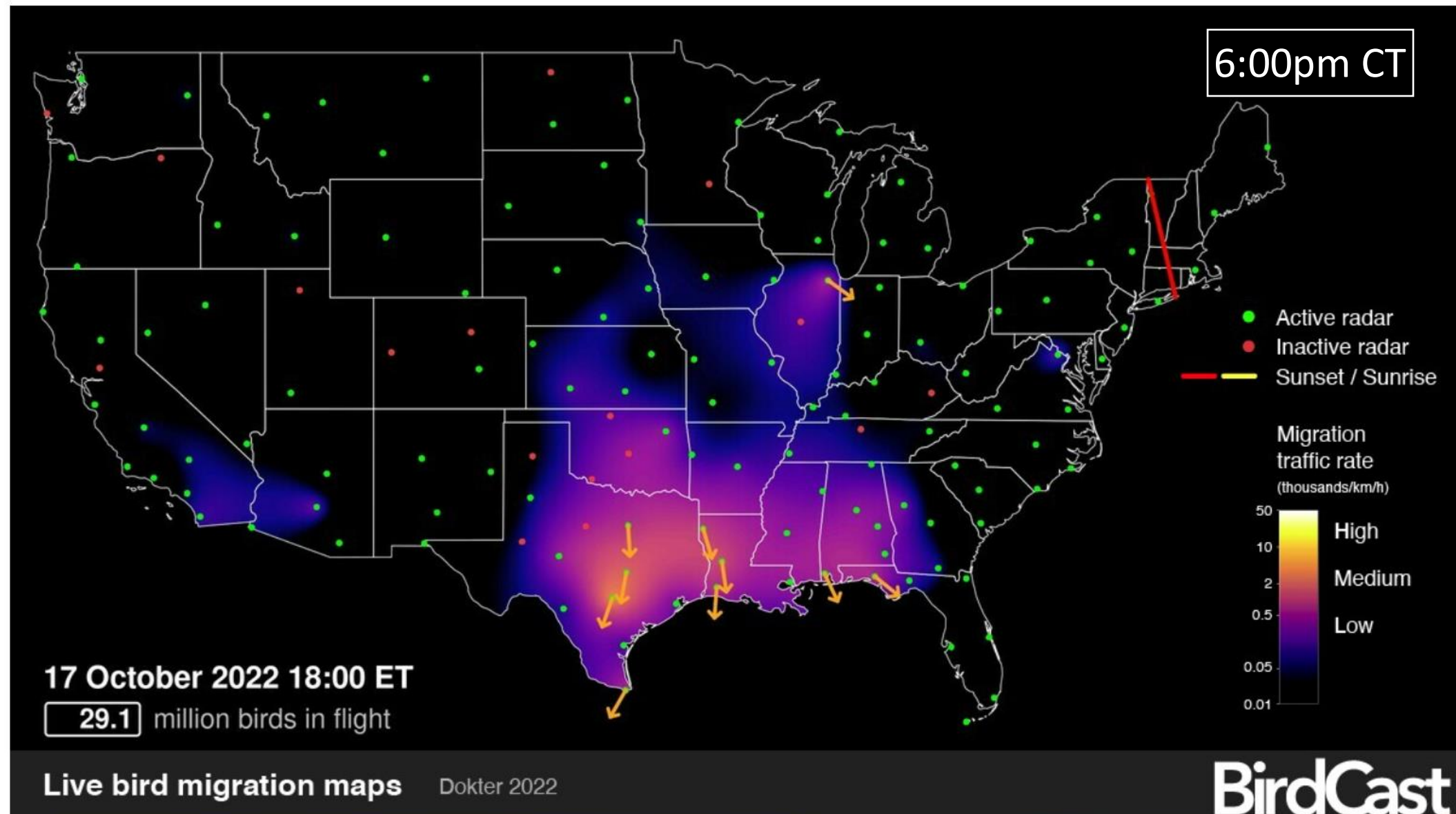
Spring Migration: March 1 - June 15

- **Peak Migration: ~April 22 - May 12**
- 1 of every 3 birds migrating through the U.S. in spring passes through Texas

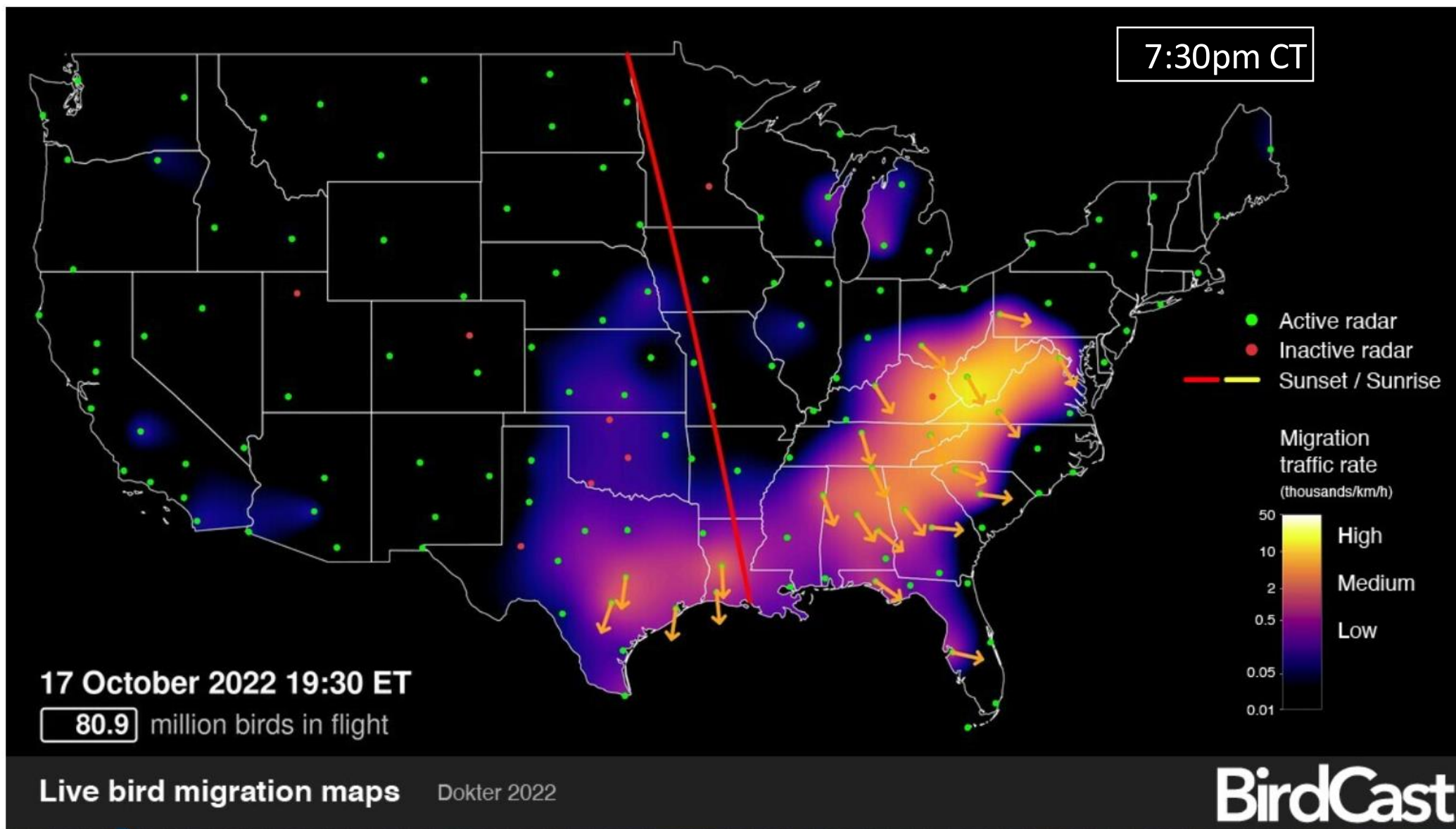
Fall Migration: ~ August 15 - November 30

- **Peak Migration: ~ September 5 - October 29**
- 1 of every 4 birds migrating through the U.S. in fall passes through Texas

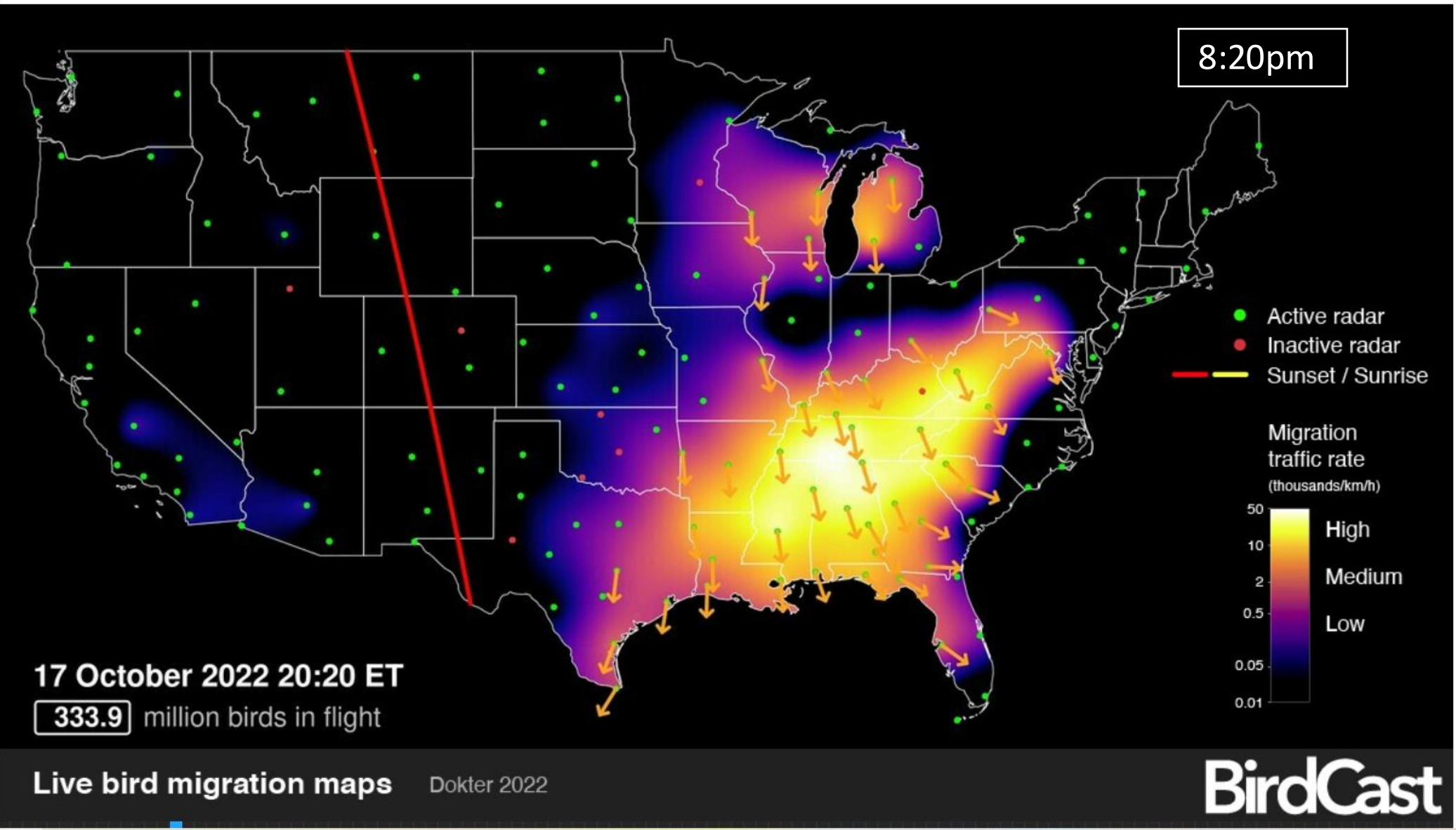
2022/10/17



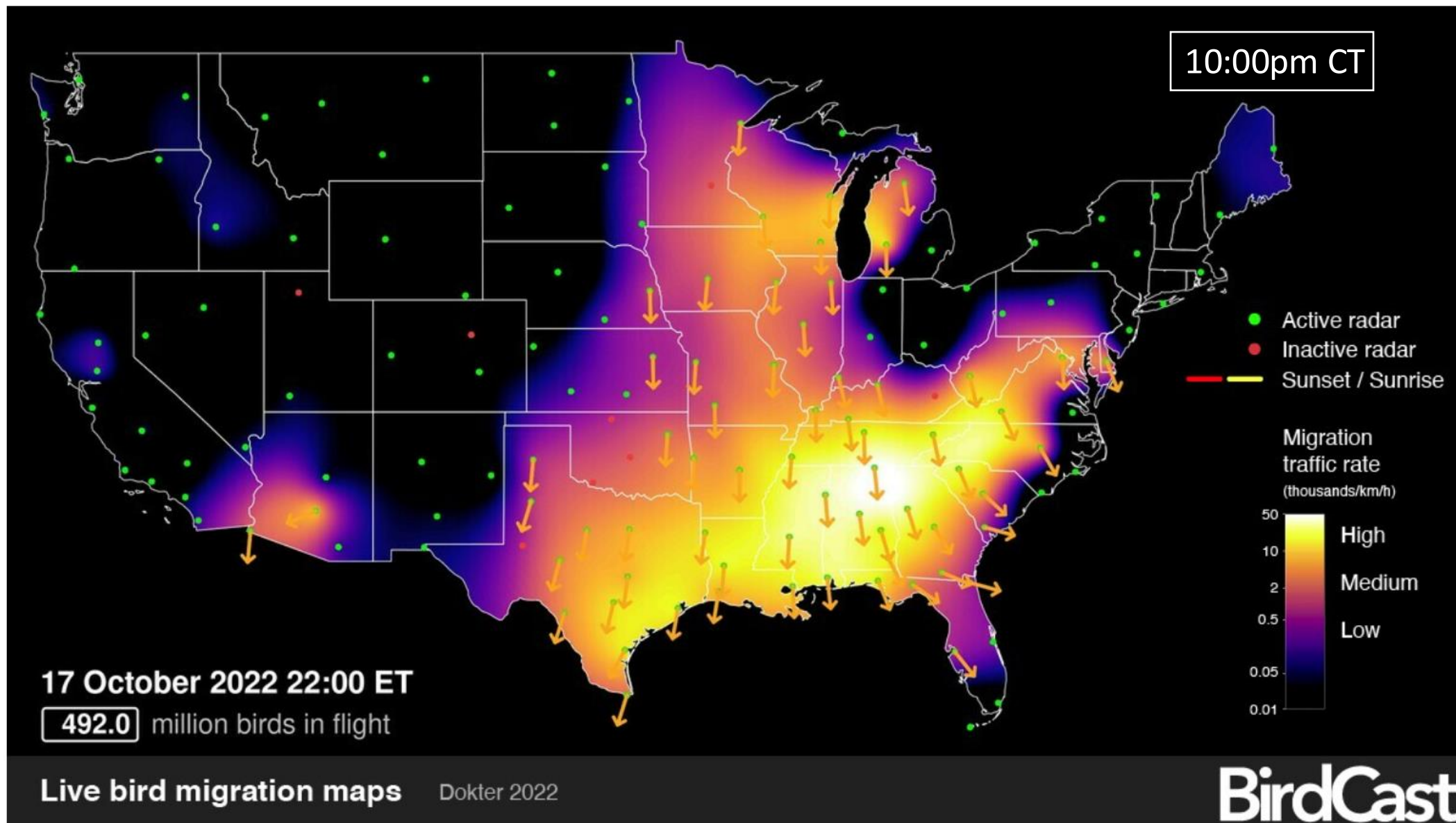
2022/10/17



2022/10/17

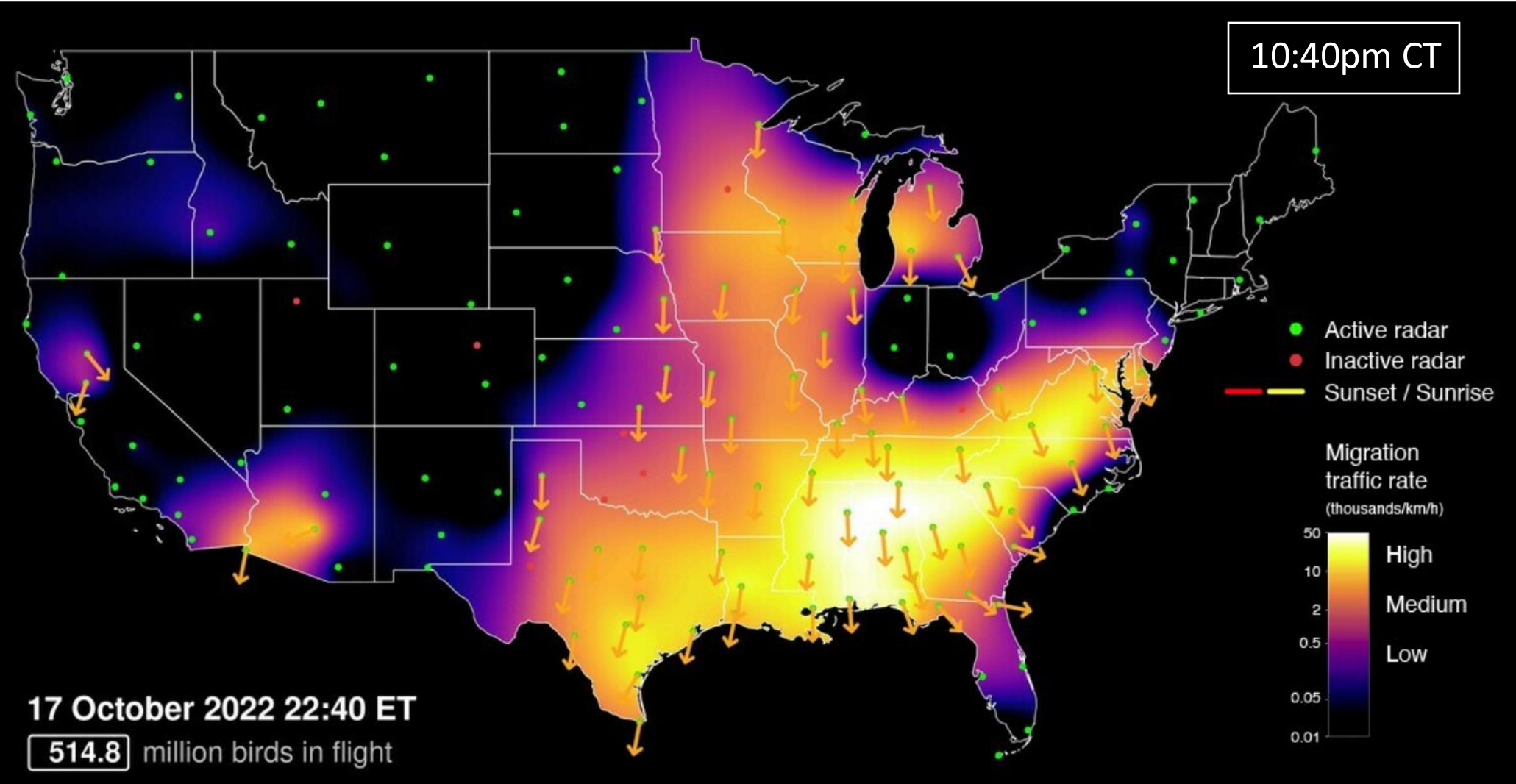


2022/10/17

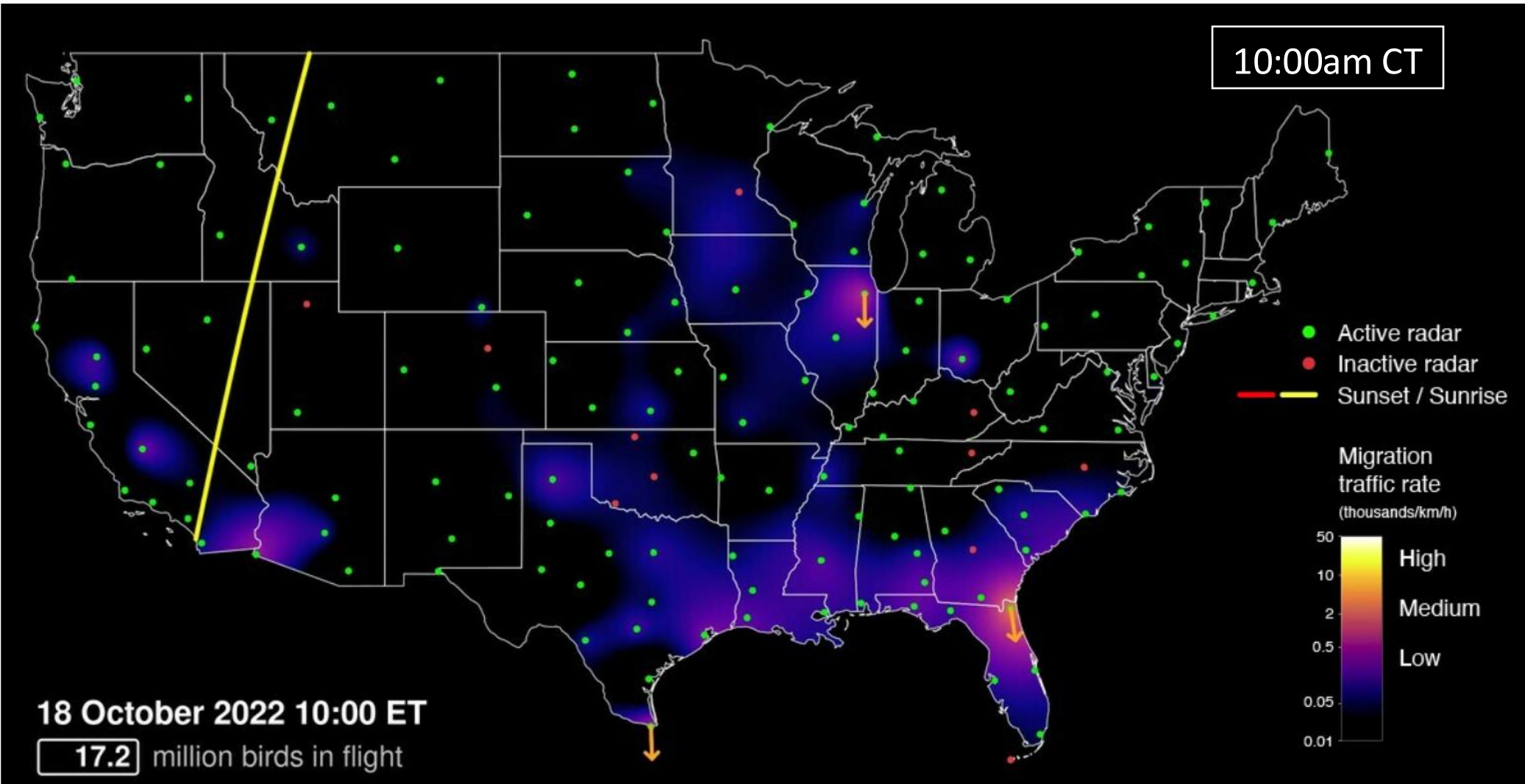


2022/10/17

10:40pm CT



17 October 2022 22:40 ET
514.8 million birds in flight



Live data feed begins each night after sunset.

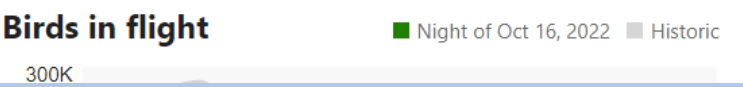
304,800
Birds crossed Travis County this night (est.)

Starting: Sun, Oct 16, 2022, 7:00 PM CDT
Ending: Mon, Oct 17, 2022, 7:30 AM CDT

[Learn more](#)



Here's what happened across this night...



And so far this season...



Expected nocturnal migrants

POWERED BY EBIRD
Nocturnally migrating species most likely to arrive or depart this region at this time of year, based on frequency of observations



Live data feed begins each night after sunset.

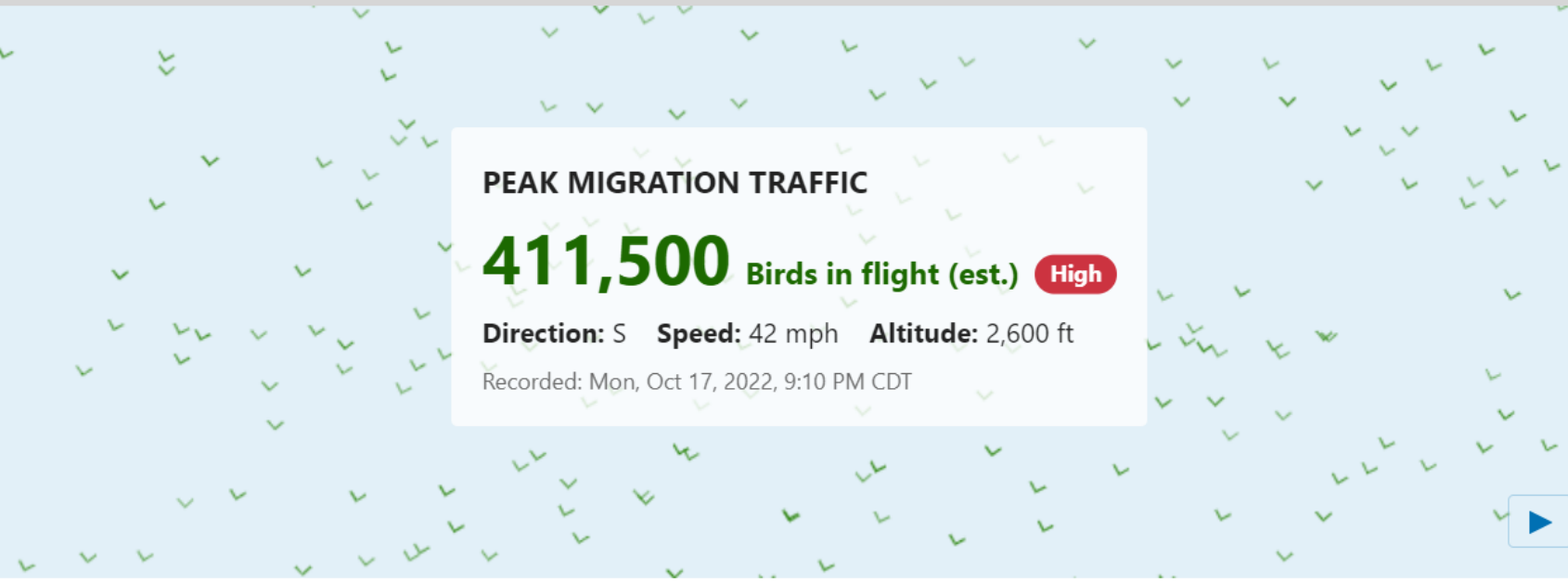
3,952,500

Birds crossed Travis County this night (est.)

High

Starting: Mon, Oct 17, 2022, 7:00 PM CDT
Ending: Tue, Oct 18, 2022, 7:30 AM CDT

[Learn more](#)



Here's what happened across this night...

Birds in flight

450K

Night of Oct 17, 2022

Historic

And so far this season...

Birds in flight (nightly avg.)

900K

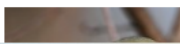
Fall 2022

Historic

Expected nocturnal migrants

POWERED BY EBIRD

Nocturnally migrating species most likely to arrive or depart this region at this time of year, based on frequency of observations

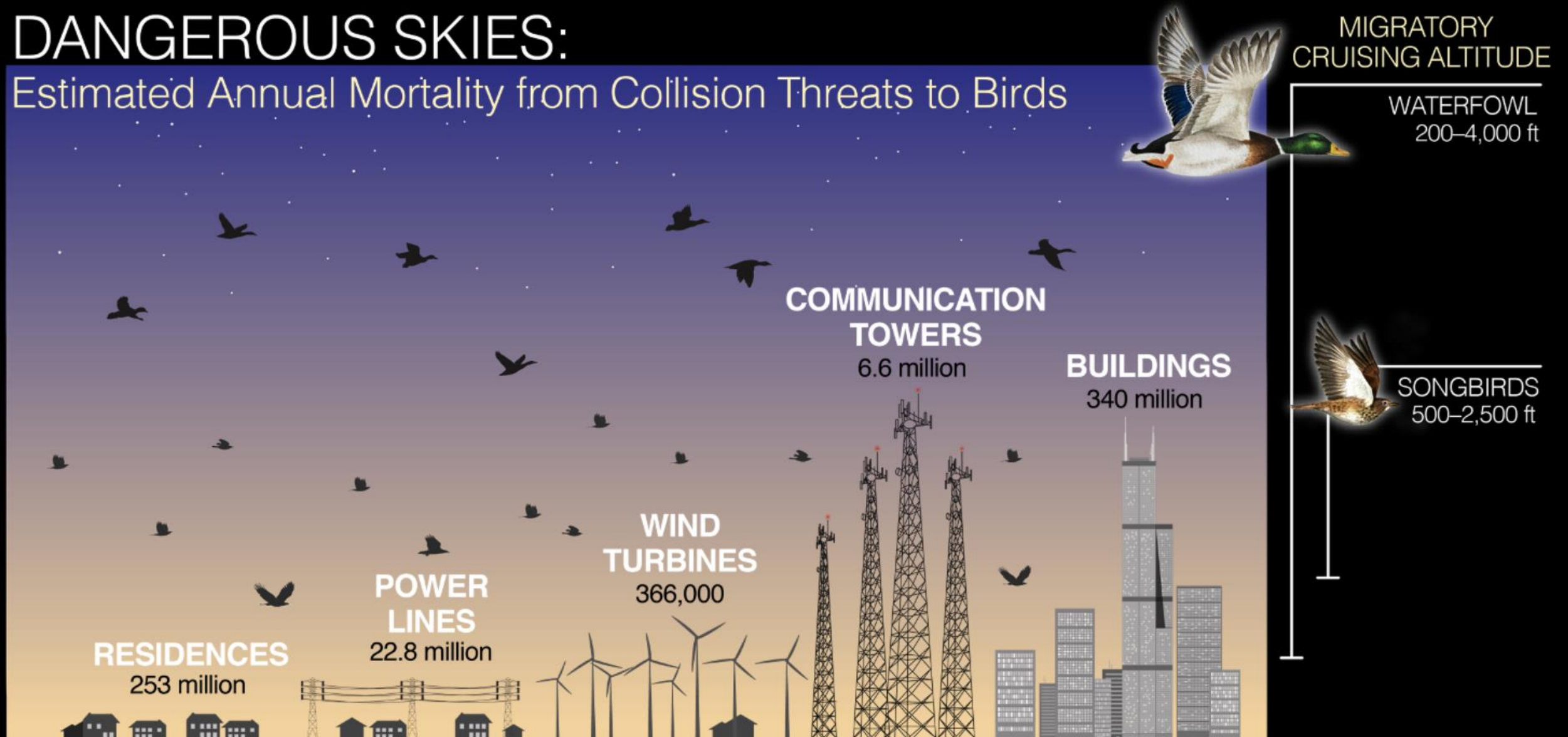
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Dangers during migration



DANGEROUS SKIES:

Estimated Annual Mortality from Collision Threats to Birds





Building collisions 2nd
leading cause of bird
fatalities: **About
1billion each year!**



What can you do to help?

- Keep cats inside
- Stickers/decals on windows
- Don't use pesticides
- Support bond proposals to buy greenspace
- Provide food and water for the birds
- Use native plants
- Join Travis Audubon Society

Lights Out for Birds tonight!



Learn more at:
bit.ly/LightsOutTexas

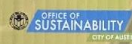
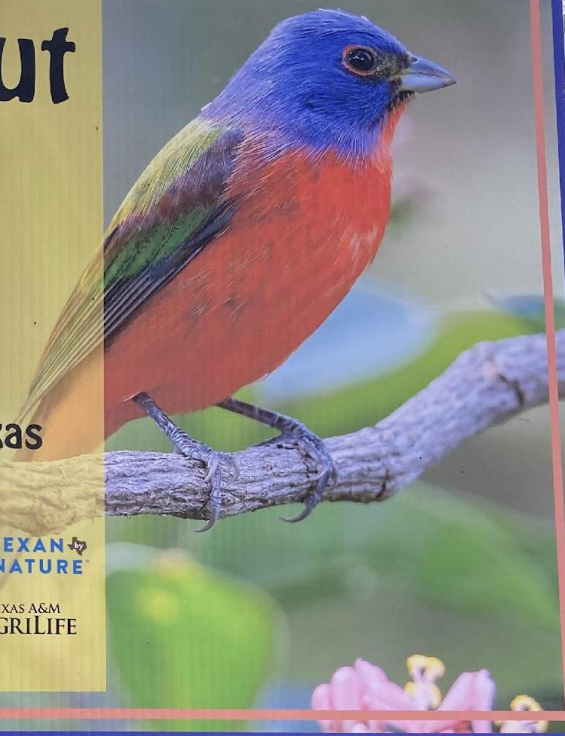


Photo: Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*), Julie Torkomian

Guidelines for EVERYONE:

- Turn off all non-essential lights from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. each night during migration season.
- Do not use landscape lighting to light up trees or gardens where birds may be resting.
- For essential lights (like security lighting) use the following dark skies friendly lighting practices:
 - Aim lights down
 - Use lighting shields to direct light downwards and to avoid light shining into the sky or trees
 - Use motion detectors and sensors so lights are only on when you need them
 - Close blinds at night to reduce the amount of light being emitted from windows
- If you own or manage a building, consider the following for custodial services:
 - Consider adjusting custodial schedules to end by 11:00 PM.
 - Ask custodial staff to ensure that lights are off after they finish their work.

Bar-tailed Godwit

- Banded bird left Alaska on October 13, 2022
- Flew to Tasmania
- 8,430 miles
- 11 days NONSTOP





TRAVIS AUDUBON

Listen. Look. And Learn.