

Showcasing the spectacle of bird migration

When, where, and how far will birds migrate? How many birds passed last night? Our tools help you explore the answers to these and many other questions about bird migration.

[Learn how](#)

The Cornell Lab



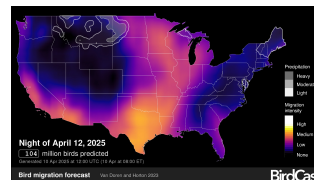
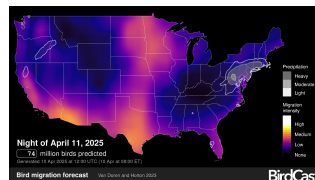
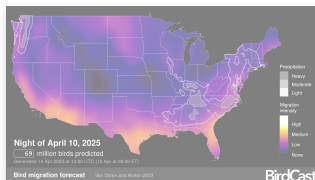
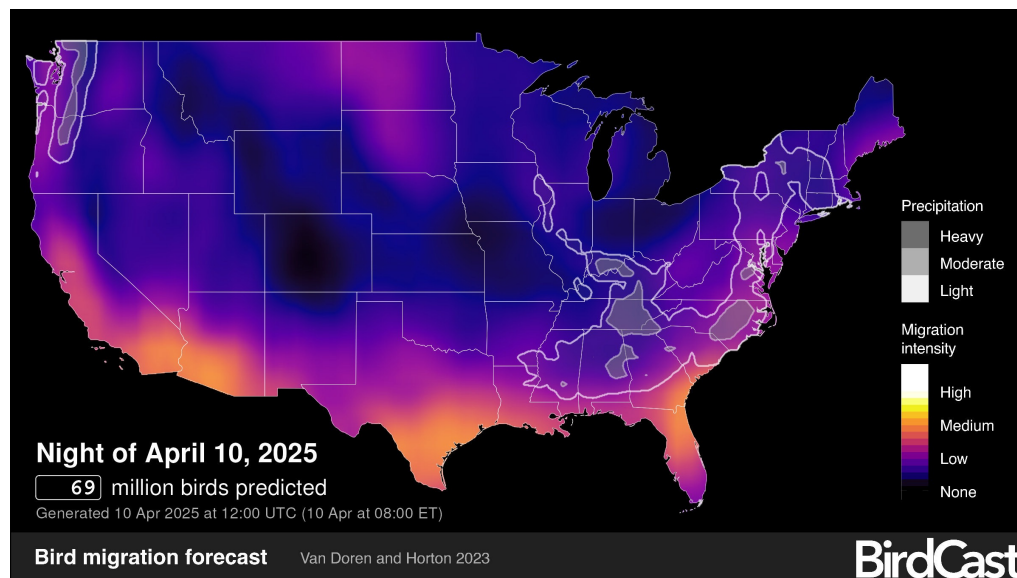
Colorado State University

UMass Amherst

MIGRATION TOOLS **ACTIVE** Forecasting ends Jun 15, 2025

Migration Dashboard

Explore nightly migration data in your region. [Learn more](#)

Search

Bird migration forecast maps

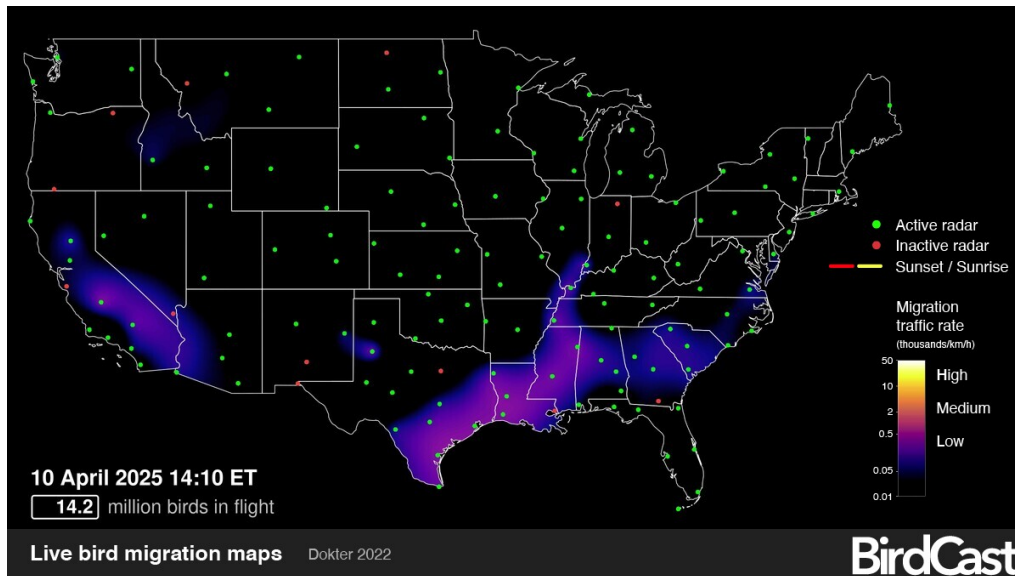
Bird migration forecast maps show predicted nocturnal migration 3 hours after local sunset and are updated every 6 hours. Colorado State University and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology currently produce these forecasts. [Learn more](#)

Local bird migration alerts

Search with our local migration alert tool to determine whether birds are passing overhead near your city tonight! [Learn more](#)

🔍 Enter a city...

Search

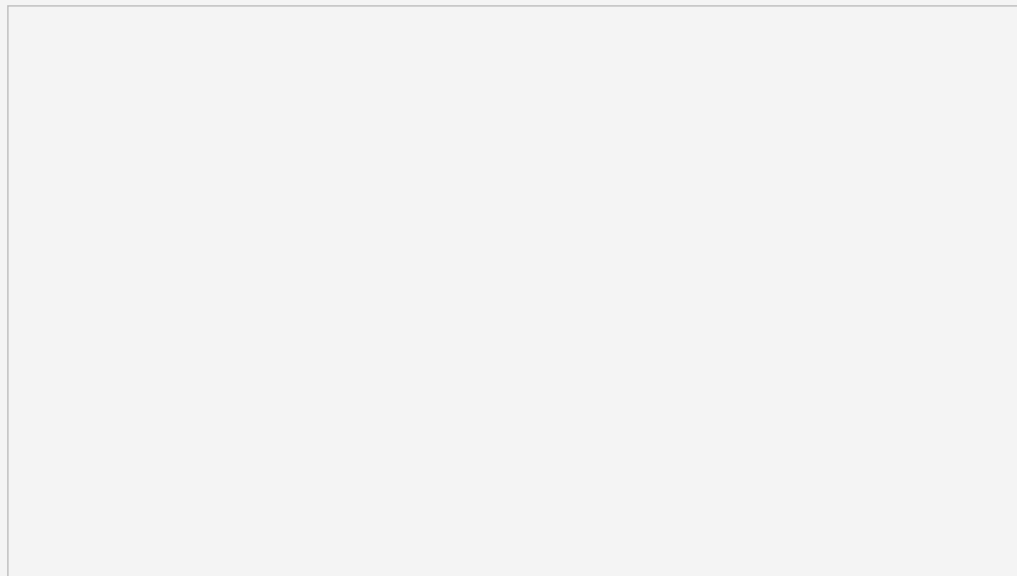


Live bird migration maps

See real-time analysis maps of intensities of actual nocturnal bird migration, as detected by the US weather surveillance radar network between local sunset to sunrise. Cornell Lab of Ornithology currently produces these maps.

Play live bird migration maps

RECENT NEWS

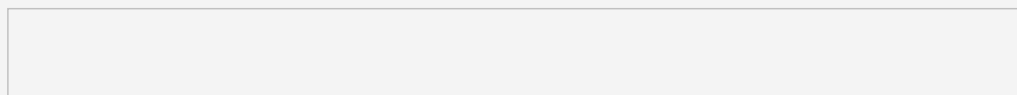


FORECAST AND ANALYSIS

Peak Spring Bird Migration Periods for U.S. Cities

By Andrew Farnsworth | The Cornell Lab | Feb 28, 2025

Spring migration is in full swing, and knowing when peak migration will occur in your area is valuable information! Here we provide a sortable table of peak periods of spring bird migration for the largest cities by human population size in the contiguous US. [Read more](#)



MIGRATION

A primer for using weather surveillance radar to study bird migration

By Carley Eschliman (Cornell) and Kyle Horton (CSU AeroEco Lab) | Guest Authors | Feb 28, 2025

As a reminder to what the team is working on here at BirdCast, we return to a previous post we wrote. With spring soon arriving and preparations for migration underway, here is a primer on what we do. We turn weather radar data into information on the numbers and flight directions of birds aloft in order to expand the understanding of migratory bird movement. After several years (and hundreds of posts) describing migration, species on the move, and unique migration events, we want you to have a better understanding of what happens at BirdCast. Here is a brief overview and a behind-the-scenes look at the ways we apply radar data to study bird migration. [Read more](#)

Hurricane Milton: an intense and dangerous storm

By Andrew Farnsworth | The Cornell Lab | Oct 07, 2024

Hurricane Milton is a powerful and very dangerous storm. Birds have been reported traveling in its eye, and as the storm approaches landfall, bioscattered is visible in proximity to the eye of the storm. [Read more](#)

All news

NASA Earth Observatory images by Joshua Stevens, using Suomi NPP VIIRS data from Miguel Román, NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center


Lights Out


Every spring and fall, billions of birds migrate through the US, mostly under the cover of darkness. This mass movement of birds must contend with a dramatically increasing but still largely unrecognized threat: light pollution.

[Learn more](#)

BirdCast is a consortium of interdisciplinary researchers, primarily from three organizations at present, with a growing list of collaborators, supporters, and partners. [Learn more](#)

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