

Flight Paths

How a Passionate and Quirky Group of Pioneering Scientists Solved the Mystery of Bird Migration

Rebecca Heisman



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Like other branches of science from which minorities have historically been excluded, the field of ornithology is still disproportionately dominated by white scientists, a fact reflected in the pages of this book. We all have more work to do, and I will be donating a portion of my proceeds from this book to an organization that provides scholarships to BIPOC (Black, indigenous, and/or person of color) birders interested in STEM fields.

Further Reading and Resources

- Audubon Christmas Bird Count (www.audubon.org/conservation /science/christmas-bird-count). How to participate in the world's oldest continuously running community science program.
- BirdCast (birdcast.info). Radar-based forecasts of bird migration intensity across the United States.
- Bird Genoscape Project (www.birdgenoscape.org). More about the Bird Genoscape Project's research and findings.
- eBird (ebird.org). How to start uploading your own sightings to eBird, plus lots of ways to explore the data that's already been accumulated.
- Icarus (www.icarus.mpg.de/en). Information on the new Icarus wild-life tracking system based on the International Space Station.
- Motus Wildlife Tracking System (motus.org). Information on the Motus automated radio telemetry system.
- Movebank (www.movebank.org). A website where anyone can access maps of the movements of animals currently being tracked around the world.

Further Reading and Resources

- North American Breeding Bird Survey (www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs). Information on the long-running annual survey founded by Chan Robbins, including how to volunteer.
- Old Bird (www.oldbird.org). Information and resources related to nocturnal flight call recording, including gear to set up your own recording station.
- Terra Project (www.terralistens.com). A planned device for community scientists to detect nocturnal flight calls and Motus-tagged birds passing over their yards.
- USGS Bird Banding Laboratory (www.usgs.gov/labs/bird-banding -laboratory). Information on bird banding in the United States, including how to report a sighting of a banded bird.

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