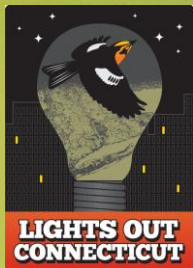


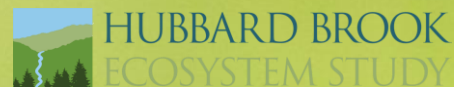
The Safina Center

Audubon

REWI  
Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute



The University of Vermont



Audubon Society  
of Rhode Island



# Birds Across New England: The Audubon Regional Conservation Symposium

Sunday, February 4 2024  
Salve Regina University  
Newport, RI

# Schedule at a Glance

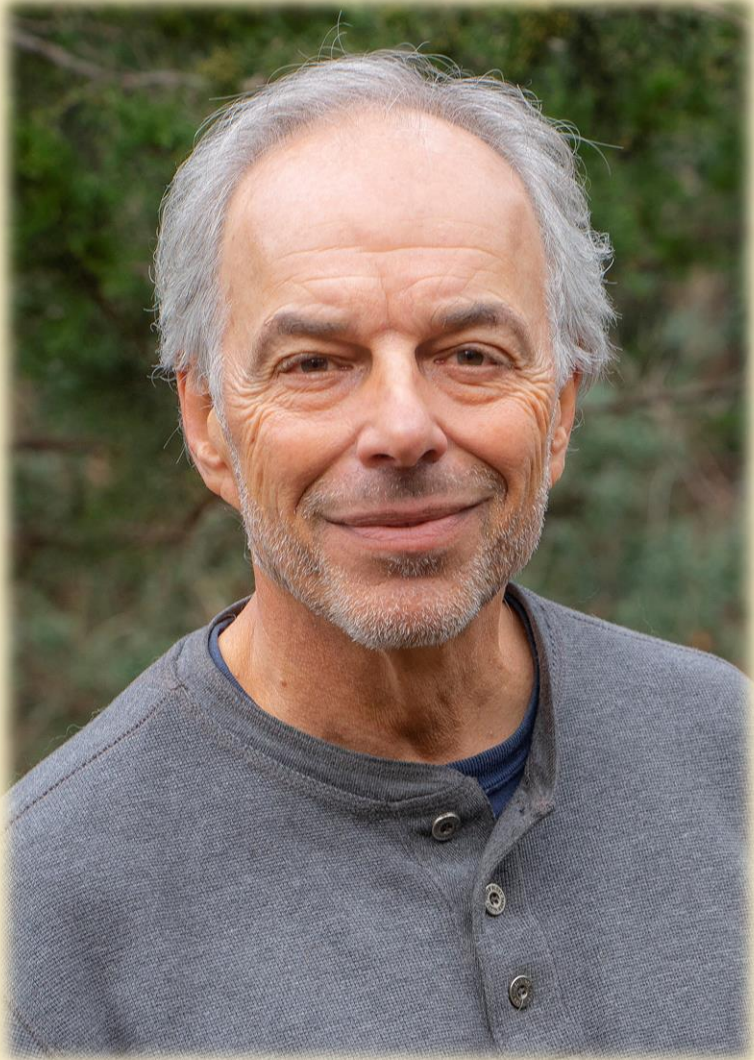
TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
7:00 – 8:30am	Guided Bird Walk	Cliff Walk
8:00 – 9:15am	Registration Open	O’Hare Academic Building Lobby
9:15 – 9:30am	Welcome, Introductions	Bazarsky Lecture Hall
9:30 – 10:30am	Keynote Address	Bazarsky Lecture Hall
10:30 – 10:45am	Coffee Break	O’Hare Academic Building Lobby
10:45 – 12:15pm	Concurrent Sessions	O’Hare Academic Building Classrooms
12:15 – 1:15pm	Lunch and Book Signing with Carl Safina	O’Hare Academic Building Lobby
1:15 – 2:45pm	Concurrent Sessions	O’Hare Academic Building Classrooms
2:45 – 3:00pm	Coffee Break	O’Hare Academic Building Lobby
3:00 – 4:00pm	Concurrent Sessions	O’Hare Academic Building Classrooms
4:00 – 5:00pm	Closing Talk and Remarks	Bazarsky Lecture Hall



# Keynote Address

**Carl Safina, PhD**

*The Safina Center*



Carl Safina's writing about the living world has won a MacArthur "genius" prize, Pew, and Guggenheim Fellowships; book awards from Lannan, Orion, and the National Academies; and the John Burroughs, James Beard, and George Rabb medals.

His seabird studies earned a PhD in ecology from Rutgers; he then spent a decade working to ban high-seas drift nets and to overhaul U.S. fishing policy. These days his focus is writing and speaking. Safina is now the first Endowed Professor for Nature and Humanity at Stony Brook University (where he formerly co-chaired the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science), and he runs the not-for-profit Safina Center. He hosted the PBS series *Saving the Ocean*. His writing appears in *The New York Times*, *TIME*, *Audubon*, and on the Web at *National Geographic News and Views*, *Huffington Post*, *CNN.com*, and elsewhere. He is author of the classic book, *Song for the Blue Ocean*. Carl's 11th book, *Alfie & Me: What Owls Know, What Humans Believe*, published in October 2023. He lives on Long Island, New York with his wife Patricia and their dogs and feathered friends.

Carl will be signing copies of his newest book, *Alfie & Me: What Owls Know, What Humans Believe*, during the lunch break.

# Closing Talk

**Scott Edwards, PhD**  
*Harvard University*



Scott Vernon Edwards is the Alexander Agassiz Professor of Organismal and Evolutionary Biology at Harvard University and the Curator of Ornithology at Harvard's associated museum, the Museum of Comparative Zoology.

When COVID-19 sent students home and halted lab research, Scott decided to fulfill his lifelong dream of cycling from the Atlantic to Pacific. Two weeks before his departure, nationwide protests broke out over the murder of George Floyd by a police officer. On the same day a video of a racist encounter in Central Park involving a Black birder and white woman went viral. As a result of that incident, a group of Black birders and naturalists launched Black Birders Week, a social media campaign that elevates Black voices in birding and takes on racism in the outdoors.

Suddenly, Scott's adventure turned into a much larger mission. He created a Twitter account to participate in Black Birders Week and strapped Black Lives Matter signs to his bike. Along the way, Scott met up with fellow researchers as well as met many new people who cheered him on in his quest.



TIME	Session 1: Room 107	Session 2: Bazarsky	Session 3: Room 110	Session 4: Room 103	Session 5: Room 106	Session 6: Room 117
<b>10:45 – 11:15am</b>	<p><b><u>Steve Reinert</u></b> <i>Saltmarsh Sparrow Research Initiative</i></p> <p>Saltmarsh Sparrow Reproductive Success in Narragansett Bay: Past, Present, and Future.</p>	<p><b><u>Shilo Felton, PhD</u></b> <i>Senior Scientist, Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute</i></p> <p>Developing solutions to conserve wildlife in a transition to renewable energy</p>	<p><b><u>Liam Corcoran</u></b> <i>University of Rhode Island</i></p> <p>Breeding Season Ecology of Eastern Whip-poor-wills on Managed Landscapes in Rhode Island</p>	<p><b><u>Jim Chace, PhD</u></b> <i>Salve Regina University</i></p> <p>Migratory Stopover In an Urban Riparian Zone: Ten Years of Bird Banding in Middletown, Rhode Island</p>	<p><b><u>Seth Benz</u></b> <i>Bird Ecology Director, Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park</i></p> <p>Coastal migration monitoring of hawks and waterbirds from Acadia National Park</p>	<p><b><u>Craig Repasz</u></b> <i>Co-Chair, Lights Out Connecticut</i></p> <p>The Impact of Light Pollution on Bird Migration and Food Sources.</p>
<b>11:15 – 11:45am</b>	<p><b><u>Joel Eckerson/Deirdre Robinson</u></b> <i>Co-Director, Saltmarsh Sparrow Research Initiative</i></p> <p>Are there Temperature-related Morphometric Changes in Saltmarsh Sparrows?</p>	<p><b><u>Julia Gulka</u></b> <i>Biodiversity Research Institute</i></p> <p>Using tracking technology to understand movement patterns of birds and potential risk from offshore wind development</p>	<p><b><u>Megan Gray</u></b> <i>University of Rhode Island</i></p> <p>Nesting Ecology of Eastern Towhee and Prairie Warbler in Rhode Island</p>	<p><b><u>Katie Schroeder</u></b> <i>University of Massachusetts – Amherst</i></p> <p>Behavioral ecology of Swamp Sparrows</p>	<p><b><u>Lisa Schibley</u></b> <i>Manomet, Inc.</i></p> <p>Your Shorebirds Count: An Overview of Manomet's International Shorebird Survey, from your local patch to across the Western Hemisphere</p>	<p><b><u>Meredith Barges</u></b> <i>Author, Building Better Cities for Birds</i></p> <p>Bird-Friendly Building Policy: A Look at New U.S. City &amp; State Laws</p>
<b>11:45 – 12:15pm</b>	<p><b><u>Talia Kuras</u></b> <i>University of New Hampshire</i></p> <p>Effects of Home Range Size and Space Use on Male Saltmarsh Sparrow Reproductive Success in Coastal Maine and New Hampshire</p>	<p><b><u>Marlene Pantin, DrPH</u></b> <i>National Audubon Society, Plants for Birds</i></p> <p>Plants for Birds: Creating Healthy Communities for Birds and People</p>	<p><b><u>Lincoln Dark</u></b> <i>Audubon Society of Rhode Island</i></p> <p>Trends of the Rhode Island Osprey Population</p>	<p><b><u>Pam Hunt, PhD</u></b> <i>Senior Biologist for Avian Conservation, NH Audubon</i></p> <p>Empty Skies: The Decline and Conservation of Aerial Insectivores</p>	<p><b><u>Liana DiNunzio</u></b> <i>Shorebird Biologist, Manomet, Inc.</i></p> <p>Manomet's First Massachusetts Shorebird Blitz</p>	<p><b><u>Sage Levy</u></b> <i>Tufts University, Department of Biology</i></p> <p>Where the wild birds are: influences of management, habitat change, and species interactions on bird populations in Maine's commercial forest</p>
<b>12:15 – 1:15pm</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>					

TIME	Session 1: Room 107	Session 2: Bazarsky	Session 3: Room 110	Session 4: Room 103	Session 5: Room 106	Session 6: Room 117
<b>1:15 – 1:45pm</b>	<p><b><u>Grace McCulloch</u></b> <i>University of New Hampshire and Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve</i></p> <p>Assessing the ability of saltmarsh prioritization tools to predict critical habitat for tidal marsh birds in New Hampshire</p>	<p><b><u>Peter Paton</u></b> <i>University of Rhode Island</i></p> <p>Long-term trends of fall migrants at the Kingston Wildlife Research Station</p>	<p><b><u>Ashwin Harishankar</u></b> <i>Harvard University</i></p> <p>Insights from an expansive intraspecific dataset of Song Sparrow (<i>Melospiza melodia</i>) wing morphology</p>	<p><b><u>Samuel Merker, PhD</u></b> <i>University of Connecticut, New Mexico State University</i></p> <p>Tracking American Bitterns in Connecticut and New England</p>	<p><b><u>Daniel Pratson</u></b> <i>University of Vermont</i></p> <p>Investigating the costs and values associated with “bird-friendly” sugarbush forest management in Vermont</p>	<p><b><u>Michael Thompson</u></b> <i>University of New Hampshire</i></p> <p>Impacts of Economic Degradation on Avian Functional Diversity in New England</p>
<b>1:45 – 2:15pm</b>	<p><b><u>Steve Reinert</u></b> <i>Saltmarsh Sparrow Research Initiative</i></p> <p>Saltmarsh Sparrow Reproductive Success in Narragansett Bay: Past, Present, and Future.</p>	<p><b><u>Shilo Felton, PhD</u></b> <i>Senior Scientist, Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute</i></p> <p>Developing solutions to conserve wildlife in a transition to renewable energy</p>	<p><b><u>Liam Corcoran</u></b> <i>University of Rhode Island</i></p> <p>Breeding Season Ecology of Eastern Whip-poor-wills on Managed Landscapes in Rhode Island</p>	<p><b><u>Jim Chace, PhD</u></b> <i>Salve Regina University</i></p> <p>Migratory Stopover In an Urban Riparian Zone: Ten Years of Bird Banding in Middletown, Rhode Island</p>	<p><b><u>Seth Benz</u></b> <i>Bird Ecology Director, Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park</i></p> <p>Coastal migration monitoring of hawks and waterbirds from Acadia National Park</p>	<p><b><u>Craig Repasz</u></b> <i>Co-Chair, Lights Out Connecticut</i></p> <p>The Impact of Light Pollution on Bird Migration and Food Sources.</p>
<b>2:15 – 2:45pm</b>	<p><b><u>Joel Eckerson/Deirdre Robinson</u></b> <i>Co-Director, Saltmarsh Sparrow Research Initiative</i></p> <p>Are there Temperature-related Morphometric Changes in Saltmarsh Sparrows?</p>	<p><b><u>Julia Gulka</u></b> <i>Biodiversity Research Institute</i></p> <p>Using tracking technology to understand movement patterns of birds and potential risk from offshore wind development</p>	<p><b><u>Megan Gray</u></b> <i>University of Rhode Island</i></p> <p>Nesting Ecology of Eastern Towhee and Prairie Warbler in Rhode Island</p>	<p><b><u>Katie Schroeder</u></b> <i>University of Massachusetts – Amherst</i></p> <p>Behavioral ecology of Swamp Sparrows</p>	<p><b><u>Lisa Schibley</u></b> <i>Manomet, Inc.</i></p> <p>Your Shorebirds Count: An Overview of Manomet's International Shorebird Survey, from your local patch to across the Western Hemisphere</p>	<p><b><u>Meredith Barges</u></b> <i>Author, Building Better Cities for Birds</i></p> <p>Bird-Friendly Building Policy: A Look at New U.S. City &amp; State Laws</p>
<b>2:45 – 3:00pm</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>					

TIME	Session 1: Room 107	Session 2: Bazarsky	Session 3: Room 110	Session 4: Room 103	Session 5: Room 106	Session 6: Room 117
<b>3:00 – 3:30pm</b>	<p><b><u>Talia Kuras</u></b> <i>University of New Hampshire</i></p> <p>Effects of Home Range Size and Space Use on Male Saltmarsh Sparrow Reproductive Success in Coastal Maine and New Hampshire</p>	<p><b><u>Marlene Pantin, DrPH</u></b> <i>National Audubon Society, Plants for Birds</i></p> <p>Plants for Birds: Creating Healthy Communities for Birds and People</p>	<p><b><u>Lincoln Dark</u></b> <i>Audubon Society of Rhode Island</i></p> <p>Trends of the Rhode Island Osprey Population</p>	<p><b><u>Pam Hunt, PhD</u></b> <i>Senior Biologist for Avian Conservation, NH Audubon</i></p> <p>Empty Skies: The Decline and Conservation of Aerial Insectivores</p>	<p><b><u>Liana DiNunzio</u></b> <i>Shorebird Biologist, Manomet, Inc.</i></p> <p>Manomet’s First Massachusetts Shorebird Blitz</p>	<p><b><u>Sage Levy</u></b> <i>Tufts University, Department of Biology</i></p> <p>Where the wild birds are: influences of management, habitat change, and species interactions on bird populations in Maine's commercial forest</p>
<b>3:30 – 4:00pm</b>	<p><b><u>Grace McCulloch</u></b> <i>University of New Hampshire and Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve</i></p> <p>Assessing the ability of saltmarsh prioritization tools to predict critical habitat for tidal marsh birds in New Hampshire</p>	<p><b><u>Peter Paton</u></b> <i>University of Rhode Island</i></p> <p>Long-term trends of fall migrants at the Kingston Wildlife Research Station</p>	<p><b><u>Ashwin Harishankar</u></b> <i>Harvard University</i></p> <p>Insights from an expansive intraspecific dataset of Song Sparrow (<i>Melospiza melodia</i>) wing morphology</p>	<p><b><u>Samuel Merker, PhD</u></b> <i>University of Connecticut, New Mexico State University</i></p> <p>Tracking American Bitterns in Connecticut and New England</p>	<p><b><u>Daniel Pratson</u></b> <i>University of Vermont</i></p> <p>Investigating the costs and values associated with “bird-friendly” sugarbush forest management in Vermont</p>	<p><b><u>Michael Thompson</u></b> <i>University of New Hampshire</i></p> <p>Impacts of Economic Degradation on Avian Functional Diversity in New England</p>
<b>4:00 – 5:00pm</b>	<p><b>Closing Talk and Remarks</b> <b><i>Bazarsky Lecture Hall</i></b></p>					
<b>4:00 – 4:50pm</b>	<p><b><u>Scott Edwards</u></b> <i>Harvard University</i></p> <p>Bicycling and birding across America during a summer of chaos</p>					
<b>4:50 – 5:00pm</b>	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p>					