

Update on the North American Breeding Bird Survey in Alaska

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Migratory Bird Management

Background on the BBS

- Roadside survey of breeding birds across the United States and Canada.
- Over 3,000 routes run annually.
- Objectives: to monitor the status and population trends of birds at large spatial scales (Continent, Country, Region, State).
- Most comprehensive survey of birds in North America with trends estimated for over 420 species.
- Data are analyzed annually with result available on the web.

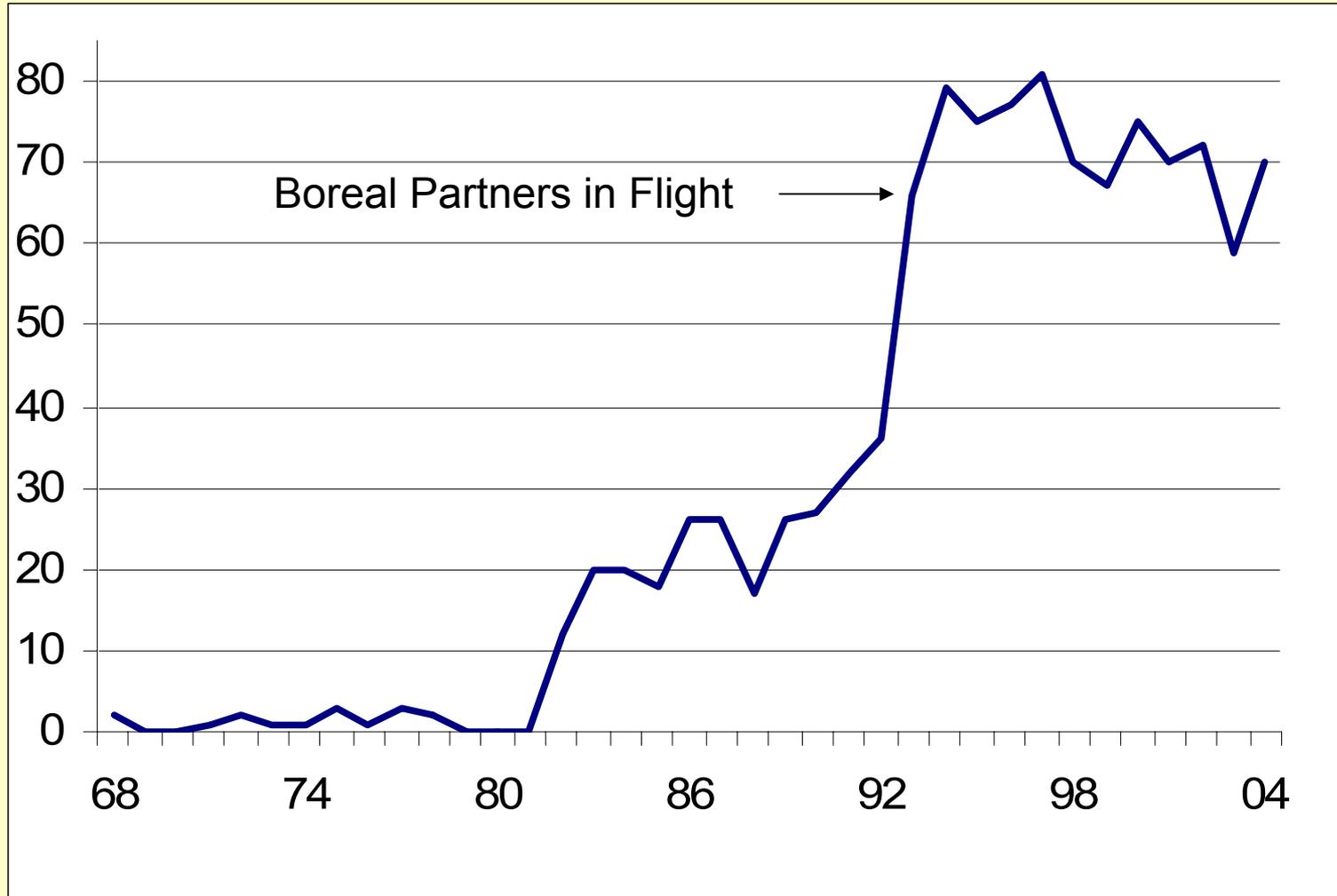
2004 Alaska BBS

- 70 Routes run in 2004.
- 173 species detected.
- 42 Observers
- 21 Observers ran 70% of the routes.

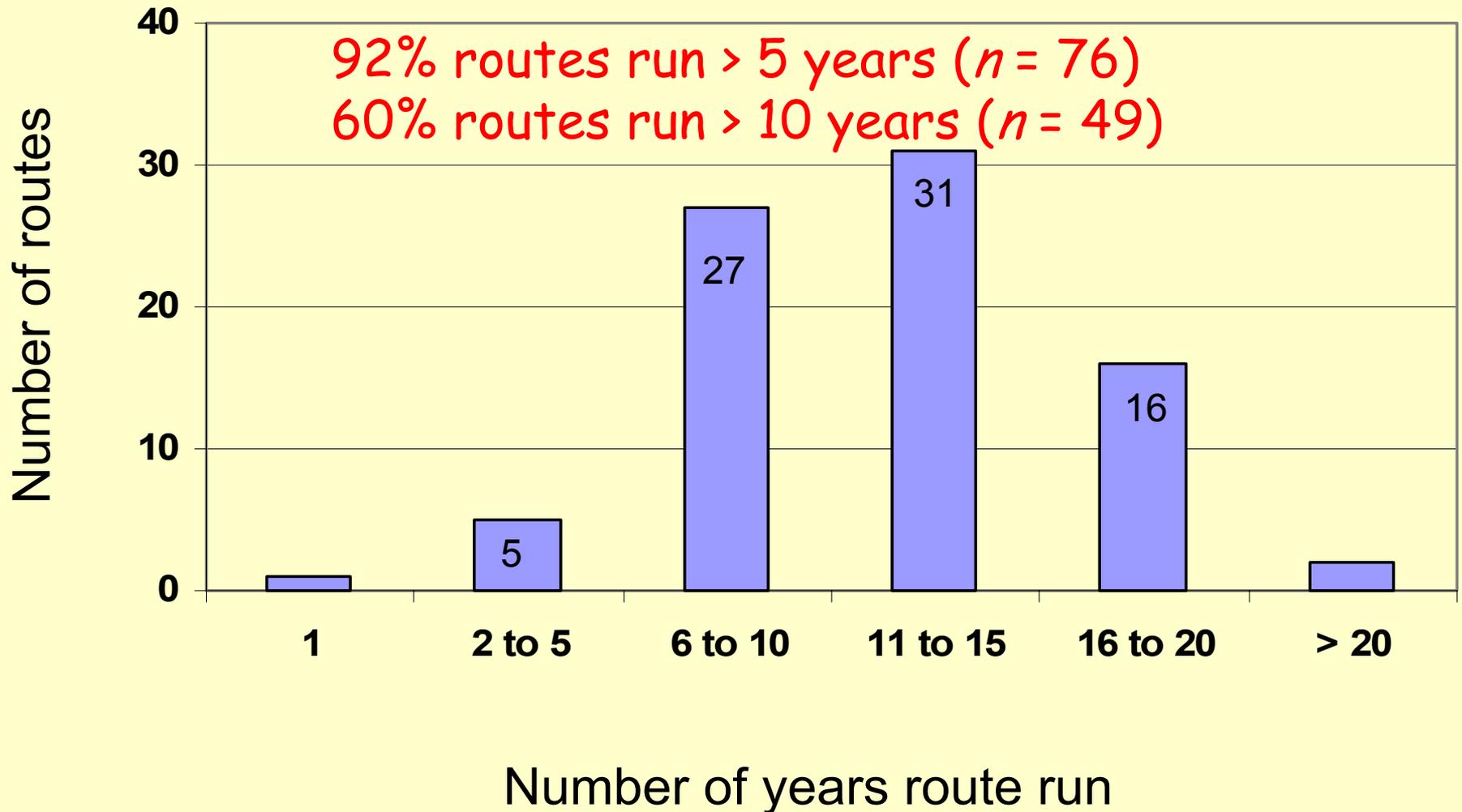
2004 Alaska BBS Observers

Observers	Routes	Observers	Routes	Observers	Routes
B. Johnson	4	A. Ajmi	2	M. Burcham	2
R. MacDonald	4	B. Seppi	2	M. Spindler	2
J. Cole	3	C. McIntyre	2	N. DeWitt	2
R. Gronquist	3	C. Tighe	2	P. O'Connor	2
S. Siekaniec	3	D. Yokel	2	R. Kleinleder	2
		E. Craig	2	R. Scher	2
		E. Jozwiak	2	S. Wise-Eagle	2
		J. Williams	2	T. Evans	2

Alaska BBS 1968-2004



Active BBS routes ($n = 82$)



Statewide Trends, 1980-2003

Population trends available for 102 species in Alaska on the web.

- Passerines and near Passerines 65
- Loons and Grebes 3
- Waterfowl 14
- Raptors 9
- Shorebirds 6
- Gulls 2

11 species with declines, 16 species with increases.

**Road Network Comparison
Alaska and the Lower 48 States**



Declines

Species	Trend	<i>P</i>	<i>n</i>	R.A.
Red-tailed Hawk	-8.5	0.05	17	0.11
Cliff Swallow	-6.0	0.09	30	3.07
Rusty Blackbird	-5.8	0.03	25	0.86
Violet-green Swallow	-5.1	0.01	37	1.22
Blackpoll Warbler	-3.8	<0.01	50	5.15
Solitary Sandpiper	-3.2	0.10	22	0.61
Lesser Yellowlegs	-2.0	0.15	45	2.52
White-crowned Sparrow	-1.9	0.02	73	28.43
Hermit Thrush	-1.8	0.06	65	5.73
Winter Wren	-1.4	0.14	21	17.08
Dark-eyed Junco	-1.1	0.06	80	22.58

Species	Trend	<i>P</i>	<i>n</i>	R.A.
Common Snipe	1.5	0.09	83	10.11
American Robin	1.5	0.12	94	19.61
Yellow-rumped Warbler	1.8	0.04	76	13.87
Gray Jay	2.4	0.01	56	5.29
Fox Sparrow	2.7	0.02	89	15.25
Northern Waterthrush	3.0	0.01	67	12.39
Black-billed Magpie	3.1	0.06	28	0.91
Red Crossbill	3.8	0.04	15	6.24
Bank Swallow	4.1	0.05	38	8.06
Greater Yellowlegs	4.3	0.05	37	1.16
Northwestern Crow	4.7	0.02	21	16.29
Pine Siskin	5.5	0.10	41	2.79
Bald Eagle	5.8	0.02	45	1.25
Hairy Woodpecker	6.8	0.05	28	0.20
Green-winged Teal	9.8	0.10	37	2.47
Herring Gull	18.0	0.10	21	0.59

Survey-wide Trends, 1980-2003

- Data from southern Canada and the lower 48.
- Data from Alaska and northern Canada not included because of few long-term routes.

Species¹	Trend	<i>n</i>	<i>P</i>
King Rail	-8.2	29	<0.001
Lesser Yellowlegs	-7.6	28	<0.001
Blackpoll Warbler	-6.6	54	<0.001
Evening Grosbeak	-5.2	599	<0.001
Rusty Blackbird	-4.9	60	0.007
Red-headed Woodpecker	-4.4	1150	<0.001
Black-backed Woodpecker	-4.3	67	0.015
Tennessee Warbler	-4.3	279	0.010
Cassin's Finch	-4.3	310	<0.001
Pine Grosbeak	-4.3	79	0.013
Great Black-backed Gull	-4.2	80	<0.001
Henslow's Sparrow	-4.0	110	0.023
Northern Bobwhite	-4.0	1438	<0.001
Horned Grebe	-3.9	69	0.004
Short-eared Owl	-3.9	117	0.007
Red-breasted Merganser	-3.9	14	0.091

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2005 and beyond

- Continue running routes!
- Try to submit you data on time.
- Fill vacant routes with the state-wide goal of running 80 routes/year.
- Observers need to commit to running a route for at least 3 years.
- We need to focus research and conservation on declining species.

Acknowledgments

- Thanks to all the biologists, agencies, and volunteers participating in the program.
 - ABO, ADF&G, Audubon, BLM, DoD, NPS, USFS, USFS, USGS.
- Thanks to BPIF for supporting the program since 1992.