

2023 New York Birders Conference
2023 New York State Ornithological Association | Annual Meeting
Research Presentations

Saturday, September 23, 11:30 am to 12:45 pm | Conference Ballroom

Investigation of Belted Kingfisher Diving

(15 min)

In early January of 2023, while photographing the Belted Kingfisher along the Nissequogue River in Kings Park, New York, I observed that the Belted Kingfishers dive was never quite the same. I noticed that the position that the Belted Kingfisher was in right before entering the water seemed to change with the water's condition (clear or murky as well as deep and shallow). This led me to the question how underwater variables affect the dive of the Belted Kingfisher and, more importantly, how and if the Belted Kingfishers dive will change based on these variables.

Emma Murphy, High School student, New York State Young Birders Club.

info@nybirders.org

Spark Bird Project

(20 mins)

The Spark Bird Project is designed to use tools of psychological science to understand birders and the experience of birding. It aims to inform how organizations can connect with current and future birders as well as to help birders better understand each other. The Spark Bird Project addresses sparks, benefits, opportunities, resources, and barriers in birding. The stories from our founding Spark Birders are rich with appreciation of the beauty in nature in general and birds in particular, happen across the lifespan, and share deep interpersonal connections.

Jennifer Lodi-Smith, Ph.D. Psychology, Carnisius College .

lodismij@canisius.edu

Waterbirds of New York Harbor: Current Trends and Conservation Efforts (20 mins)

The New York City archipelago provides vital habitat for colonial nesting wading birds and beach-nesting birds. However, in recent years, populations of both wading birds and shorebirds have been in steep decline. Discover how NYC Audubon employs conservation science to monitor and protect these species, and learn about the management measures being implemented to restore their declining populations.

Dustin Partridge, Ph.D. Biology, Director Conservation & Science, NYC Audubon.

dpartridge@nycaudubon.org

Behind the Scenes of Merlin Sound ID

(20 mins)

The Merlin Bird ID app, created by the Cornell lab of Ornithology, is a global field guide and a powerful tool to help identify the birds around you. Merlin can help you identify 1,000+ bird species by sound even when you can't see them - but how does it work? We'll take a behind the scenes look at Merlin to learn how Sound ID was developed, and how you can help us expand Merlin to cover more species worldwide.

Alli Smith, B.S. Wildlife Science, Merlin Project Coordinator, Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

allismith@cornell.edu

- 15 mins curated Q&A at the end to cover all four presentations.
- 1.5 hour total length to paper session