

**Kirtland's Warbler Conservation Team
Summer Meeting Agenda
July 29 – 31, 2025
KCC University Center
Gaylord, MI**



DAY ONE (Tuesday, July 29)

A1. 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM – In-person sign-in

B1. 12:00 – 1:00 PM – Lunch

C1. 1:00 – 1:10 PM – Welcome, Introductions, and Meeting Overview (Phil Huber, Steve Roels)

D1. 1:10 – 3:10 PM – Breeding Range Subcommittee

1. 2025 census results (30 minutes; Mike Wells, Erin Victory, Eric O'Neil, Brianne Boan, Davin Lopez, Ken Tuininga)
2. Agency habitat planning
 - a. Michigan DNR (10 minutes; Erin Victory, Jason Hartman)
 - b. USFS (10 minutes; Eric O'Neil, Dana Meder)
 - c. USFWS (10 minutes; Lindsay Grayson, Sara Siekierski)
3. Experimental jack pine forestry sites (10 minutes; Erin Victory, Eric O'Neil)
4. Preparing the next interagency MOU (10 minutes; Mike Wells, Lindsay Grayson)
5. Developing a definition of acceptable habitat (10 minutes; Erin Victory, Steve Roels)
6. Status of Conservation Plan revision (5 minutes; Phil Huber)
7. Discussion (25 minutes)

E1. 3:10 – 3:20 PM ** Afternoon Break (10 minutes) **

F1. 3:20 – 3:35 PM – Monitoring Subcommittee

1. 2025 cowbird monitoring (5 minutes; Steve Roels on behalf of Nathan Cooper)
2. Experimental jack pine plantation monitoring (Linnea Rowse, 5 minutes)
3. Bahamas Winter Rainfall (5 minutes; Steve Roels)

G1. 3:35 – 4:30 PM – Non-breeding Range Subcommittee

1. Long Island expedition (10 minutes; Giselle Deane)
2. Rum Cay expedition (10 minutes; Mike Akresh)
3. Winter habitat mapping project (15 minutes; Cole Scrivner, Mike Akresh)
4. ABC initiatives in The Bahamas (10 minutes; Steve Roels)
 - a. Community Engagement Fellowship
 - b. One Eleuthera plant propagation and nature interpretive trail
5. Migration sightings (10 minutes; Mike Petrucha)

DAY TWO (Wednesday, July 30)

A2. 9:00 – 9:10 AM – KWCT Steering Committee: New Members (Steve Roels)

B2. 9:10 – 9:45 AM – Talk: Engaging Eleuthera for Kirtland's Warbler Conservation (Alvanna Johnson)

C2. 9:45 – 10:25 AM – Jack Pine Research Group

1. Assessing jack pine stands with drone imagery (20 minutes; Joe Young)
2. Jack pine mastication project update (20 minutes; David Rothstein)

D2. 10:25 – 11:00 AM – Expanding the Breeding Range Working Group

1. Ottawa National Forest (5 minutes; Brianne Boan)
2. Hiawatha National Forest (5 minutes; Brianne Boan on behalf of Ashlynn Pryal)
3. Michigan State Forest (5 minutes; Sherry MacKinnon, Erin Victory)
4. Wisconsin DNR (10 minutes; Davin Lopez and Elizabeth Axley)
5. The Nature Conservancy Central Sands (5 minutes; Pat Weber on behalf of Hannah Butkiewicz)
6. Ontario Kirtland's Warbler Working Group (5 minutes; Ken Tuininga, Pete Burke)

E2. 11:00 – 11:10 AM ** Morning Break (10 minutes) **

F2. 11:10 AM – 11:55 AM – Human Dimensions Subcommittee

1. Kirtland's Warbler Festival (5 minutes; Mike Petrucha)
2. Michigan outreach and 2025 calendar (5 minutes; Dana Meder)
3. KW Young Artists' Contest transition (10 minutes; Bill Rapai, Mike Petrucha, Steve Roels)
4. Bahamas outreach (5 minutes; Anastacia Rigby)
5. Jack pine planting day (5 minutes; Bill Rapai)
6. Mass timber (5 minutes; Bill Rapai)
7. English name change (5 minutes; Bill Rapai)
8. KWCT newsletter and website (5 minutes; Steve Roels)

G2. 11:55 AM – 1:00 PM – Lunch

H2. 1:00 – 1:10 PM – Kirtland's Warbler Alliance Update (Bill Rapai)

I2. 1:10 – 1:30 PM – Northern Pine Plains Partnership (Bryant Eddy)

J2. 1:30 – 2:00 PM – Fundraising Updates

1. American Bird Conservancy donor field trips (10 minutes; Steve Roels)
2. ABC KW Long-term Fund (15 minutes; Steve Roels on behalf of Shawn Graff)
3. MDNR KW dedicated account balance update (5 minutes; Jennifer Kleitch)

K2. 2:00 – 2:05 PM – Discussion of Winter 2025 meeting dates (Steve Roels)

L2. 2:05 – 2:15 PM – Field trip overview (Erin Victory, Jesse Lincoln)

M2. 2:15 – 2:20 PM – KWCT meeting feedback request (Steve Roels)

N2. 2:20 – 4:00 PM – Subcommittee and working group brainstorming sessions (optional)

DAY THREE (Thursday, July 31)

A3. 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM – Field tour: Balancing Birds and Barrens (Erin Victory, Brian Piccolo, Jesse Lincoln)

The field tour will visit a mosaic landscape near Lovells (Crawford Co.) on the land managed by the Michigan DNR using a variety of approaches. Typical opposing wave jack pine plantations of several different ages are adjacent to areas maintained as more open barrens. Discussion will focus on the natural resource values each management approach provides, where they overlap in terms of species supported, and where they are distinct.