



50th ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE
NOV 7-10, 2024
DULUTH, MINNESOTA

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HMANA 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CONFERENCE
IN DULUTH, MINNESOTA

Join the Hawk Migration Association of North America (HMANA) in celebrating 50 years of hawk migration study, research, and appreciation at the upcoming conference to be hosted by Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory in Duluth, Minnesota. This milestone event will be held from November 7-10, 2024 at the Holiday Inn & Suites – Downtown Duluth Hotel.

Five decades ago, HMANA emerged as the first organization to design standardized protocols to monitor long-term trends and patterns at hawk migration counts across the Americas. Today, over 200 count sites annually submit standardized hawk migration count data to HawkCount.org - the largest raptor migration monitoring database in the world. These data play a critical role in long-term monitoring of raptor population trends, provide valuable insight into population health, highlight potentially vulnerable populations and better our understanding of where conservation efforts are most needed. Using these data and in partnership with Birds Canada, HawkWatch International, and Hawk Mountain Sanctuary (www.rpi-project.org), HMANA has been a pillar of raptor conservation science for the past 50 years. This year's conference in Duluth will serve as both a celebration of great accomplishments, as well as an opportunity to look into a future with decades more of raptor migration monitoring and education to come!

The conference weekend will offer a variety of speakers, consisting of top names in raptor migration research and education, as well as enriching symposiums, poster sessions, and field trips throughout the Duluth area. Keynote speaker, **Dr. Ernesto Ruelas Inzunza**, founder of the Veracruz River of Raptors in Mexico, will speak about "Raptor Migration in the Neotropics: Three Decades of Discovery." Plenary speakers **Clay Sutton** and **Pete Dunne**, co-authors of *Hawks in Flight*, will share their insight into hawk watching over the last 50 years. The newest discoveries in satellite tracking of golden eagles, red-tailed hawks, and others will be discussed and other talks will explore movement ecology, current status and threats, winter monitoring efforts, raptor education innovations, and what the future of hawk watching may bring.

A diverse mix of field trips will allow attendees to visit the renowned Hawk Ridge overlook to experience late fall migration hawk watching along Lake Superior's north shore which is a peak time for Bald and Golden Eagles, Rough-legged and Red-tailed Hawks, and American Goshawks. Other trips will explore north along the shore in search of northern avian specialties. Conference attendees will also have the opportunity to visit the Hawk Ridge owl banding station nightly. Field trip space is limited so reserve your spot today when you register!

Conference Registration is now open! Virtual options are available. View the conference program, make hotel reservations, or become a conference sponsor here: <https://www.hmana.org/50thconference/>.

Please direct any questions to Julie Brown, HMANA's raptor migration and programs director at brown@hmana.org. We hope you'll join us for this celebratory and historic event!