



Road to Recovery NCTC Workshop

Science, Partnership, and Action for Tipping Point Species Recovery

Draft Program Agenda – January 19-22, 2027

Workshop Purpose

The Road to Recovery (R2R) Workshop at the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, will convene species working groups, federal and state agency partners, NGOs, researchers, and local and Tribal partners to strengthen collaboration and accelerate recovery planning and implementation for North America's Tipping Point Species. The program combines plenary presentations, technical breakout sessions and training, working group collaboration, and professional development opportunities to advance innovation, learning, and effectiveness.

Day 1: Welcome and Opening

6:00 DINNER

7:00 Evening Program: Welcome reception, Working Group meetings

Day 2: Building the Foundation for Species Recovery

8:00 Optional Species Working Group Meeting Time

8:45 Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:00 Keynote: [Martin Harper, CEO Birdlife International](#)

9:30 Panel: Successful working groups and lessons learned

10:15 BREAK

10:45 Concurrent Breakout Sessions & Training

Organize Network ([R2R Recovery Progress Wheel](#) Action Category 1)

- Building effective working groups
- Partnerships and collaboration
- Communications and engagement

Assess Species Population ([Wheel](#) Action Category 2)



- Population assessment
- Monitoring and data integration
- Migratory connectivity and demographic analysis

12:30 LUNCH

1:30 Plenary Panel: Integrating Social Science into Species Recovery

2:30 BREAK

3:00 Concurrent Breakout Sessions & Training

Assess Species Population ([Wheel](#) Action Category 2)

- Advanced assessment tools
- Data synthesis

Identify Focus Areas ([Wheel](#) Action Category 3)

- Priority landscapes
- Demographic analyses
- Human dimensions in conservation planning

Organize Network ([Wheel](#) Action Category 1, 5, and 6)

- Building sustainable conservation partnerships

4:30 Species Working Group Collaboration Time

6:00 DINNER

8:00 Evening Program: Peer assist and networking sessions; Working Group meetings

Day 3: From Assessment to Recovery Planning

8:00 Optional Species Working Group Meeting Time

8:45 Introduction to Day 2 goals

9:00 Plenary Panel: Full Annual Cycle Conservation

10:15 BREAK

10:45 Concurrent Breakout Sessions & Training



Identify Focus Areas (Wheel Action Category 3)

- Prioritizing conservation landscapes
- Integrating biological and social information

Identify Challenges (Wheel Action Category 4)

- Limiting factor identification
- Threat assessment
- Human dimensions

Organize Network (Wheel Action Category 1)

- Sustaining collaborative networks

12:30 LUNCH

1:30: Plenary Panel: Strategic Partnerships for Species Recovery

2:30 BREAK

3:00 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

Identify Challenges (Wheel Action Category 4)

- Advancing limiting factor analyses
- Recovery planning tools

Strategize Recovery (Wheel Action Category 5)

- Recovery planning
- Partnership development
- Funding strategies

Organize Network (Wheel Action Category 1)

- Coordination and leadership

4:30 Species Working Group Collaboration Time

6:30 DINNER

Evening Program: Training sessions and Working Group meeting space available

Day 4: Moving from Planning to Action



8:00 Optional Species Working Group Meeting Time

8:45 Plenary Keynote: International Partnerships

9:30 Concurrent Breakout Sessions & Training

Implement Action (Wheel Action Category 6)

- Conservation implementation
- Monitoring and adaptive management
- Measuring recovery success

Strategize Recovery (Wheel Action Category 5)

- Finalizing recovery strategies
- Planning next steps

Species Working Group Planning Time

11:30 Closing Plenary: Looking Ahead: Building the Next Chapter of R2R

12:00 ADJOURN

Additional Opportunities Throughout the Workshop

- Species Working Group meeting space
- “Office hours” with R2R staff & experts
- Social science consultation sessions
- [Recovery Wheel](#) facilitation support
- Networking opportunities
- Funding and partnership discussions