

# Caribbean - "Hotspot" for biodiversity

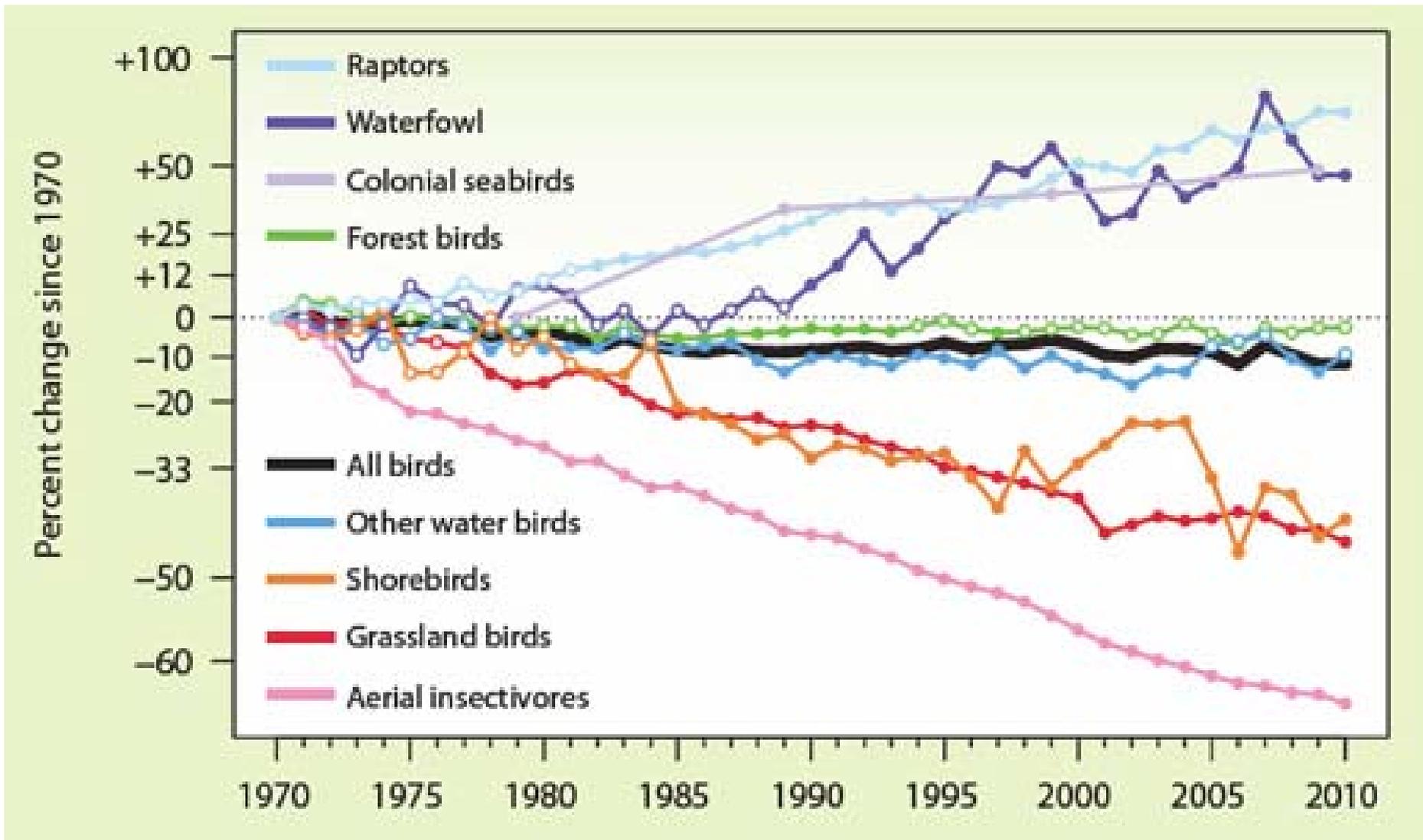


- Of 513 species of birds:
  - 172 (34%) are endemic to region
  - 54 are globally threatened



# Caribbean – Home for Neotropical Migrants





**Migratory birds are sentinels of the state of our natural resources**

**Unfortunately  
Caribbean birds face  
many threats**



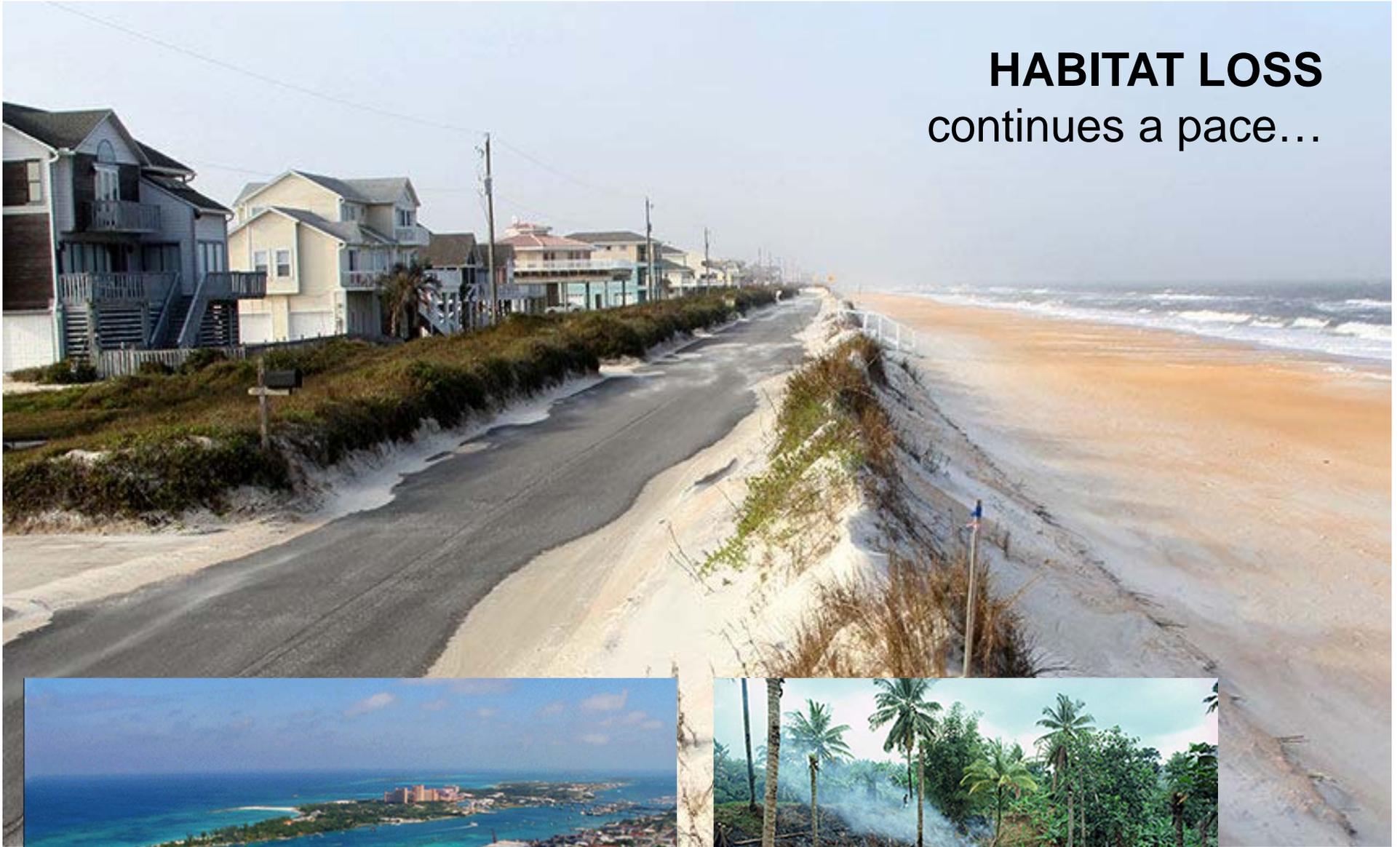


Lindsay Addison

## **HUMAN DISTURBANCE**

Large proportion of the coast is impacted by human activities

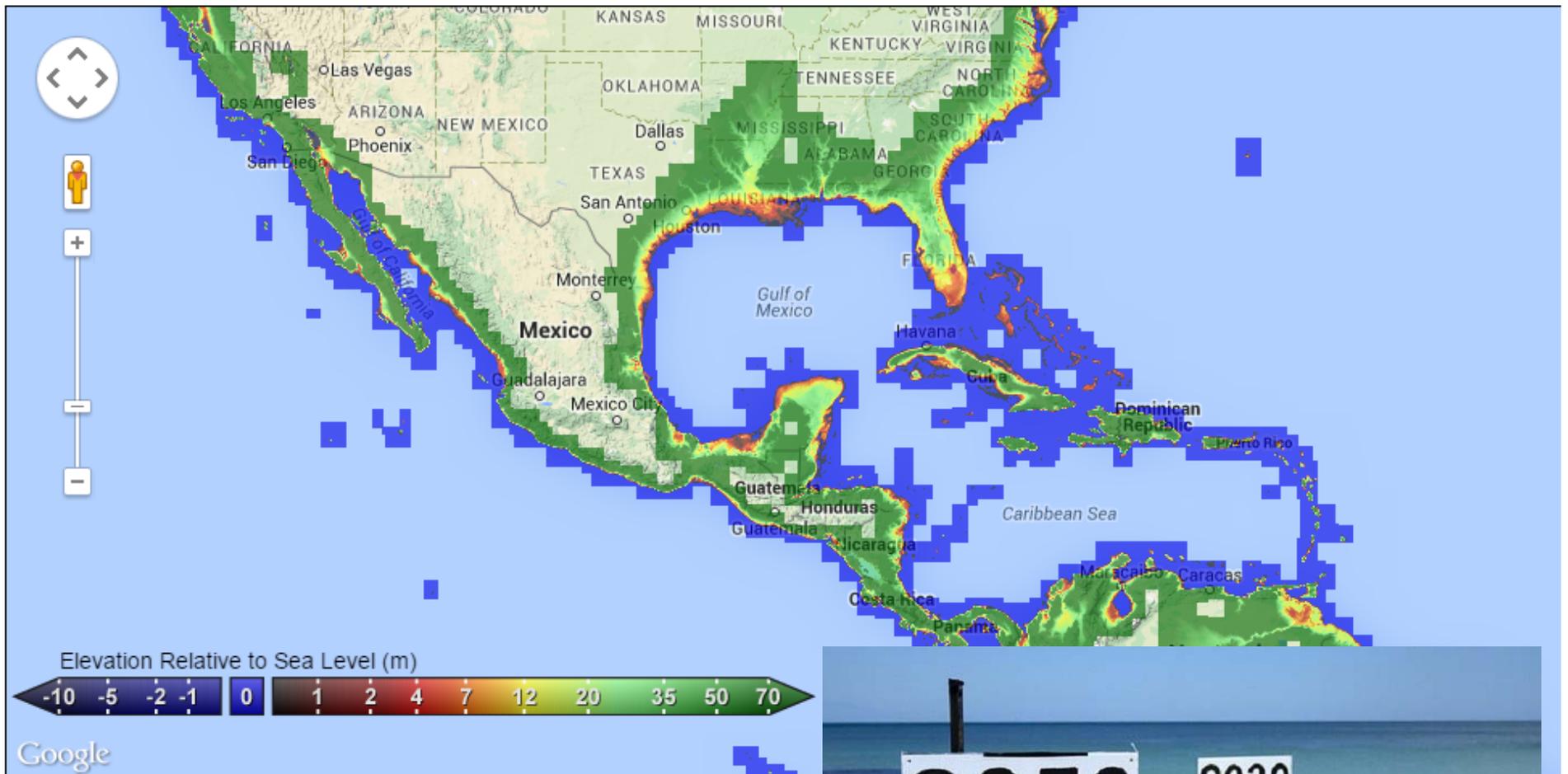
# HABITAT LOSS continues a pace...



**PREDATION -**  
Human  
commensal  
predators  
proliferating in  
areas of urban  
sprawl



# Sea Level Rise Explorer



**CLIMATE CHANGE** – Sea level rise; increase in frequency and severity of storms.





**SPORT AND SUBSISTENCE HUNTING**



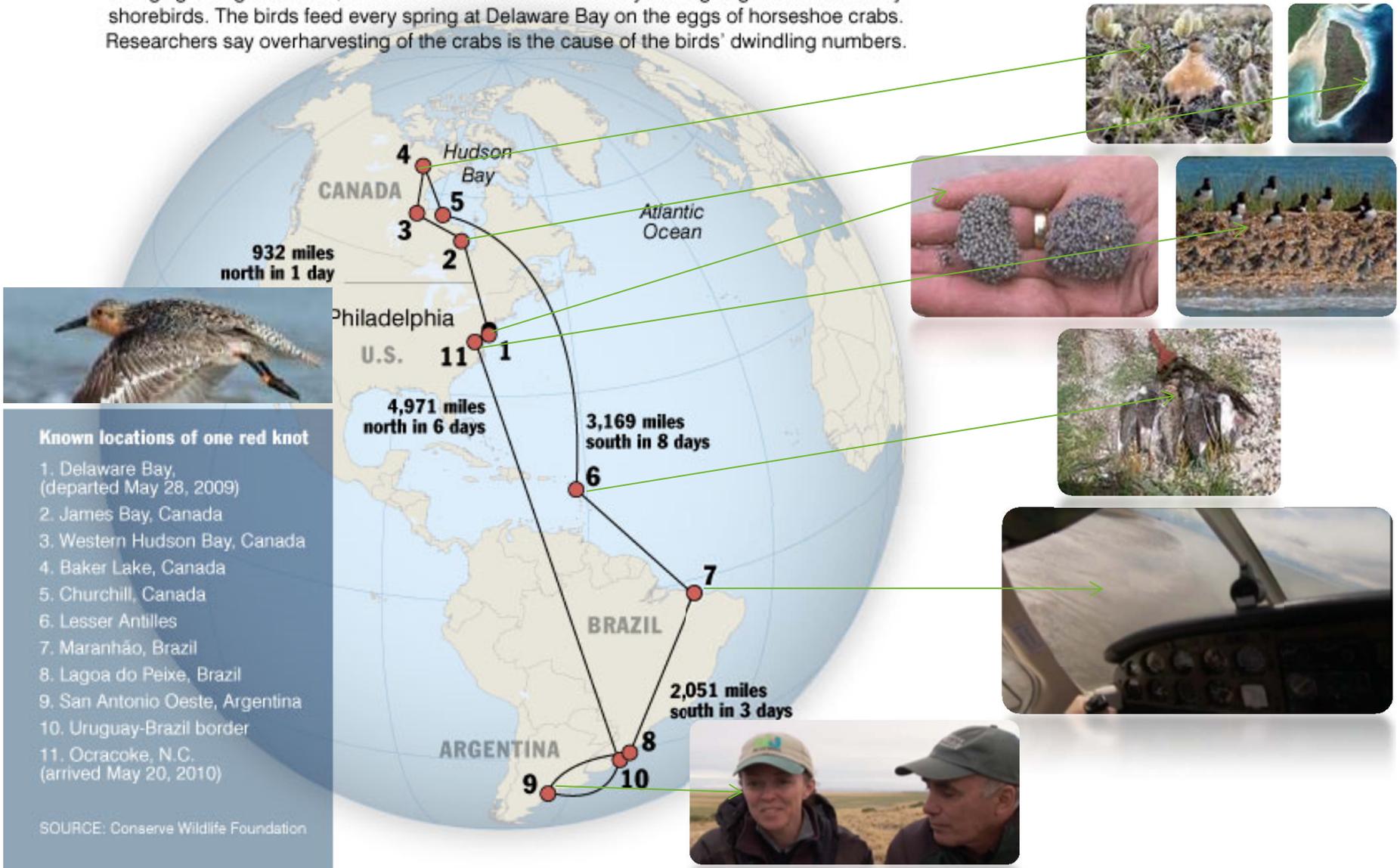
- ▶ Positive changes in hunting laws
  - Red Knot – now a protected species
  - Bag limit of 20 birds per day per hunter was instituted in Guadeloupe in 2013
  - Three-year moratorium on the shooting of Hudsonian Godwits and Whimbrels in Martinique in 2013

# Shorebird Crisis: ~70% decline in last 10-15 years



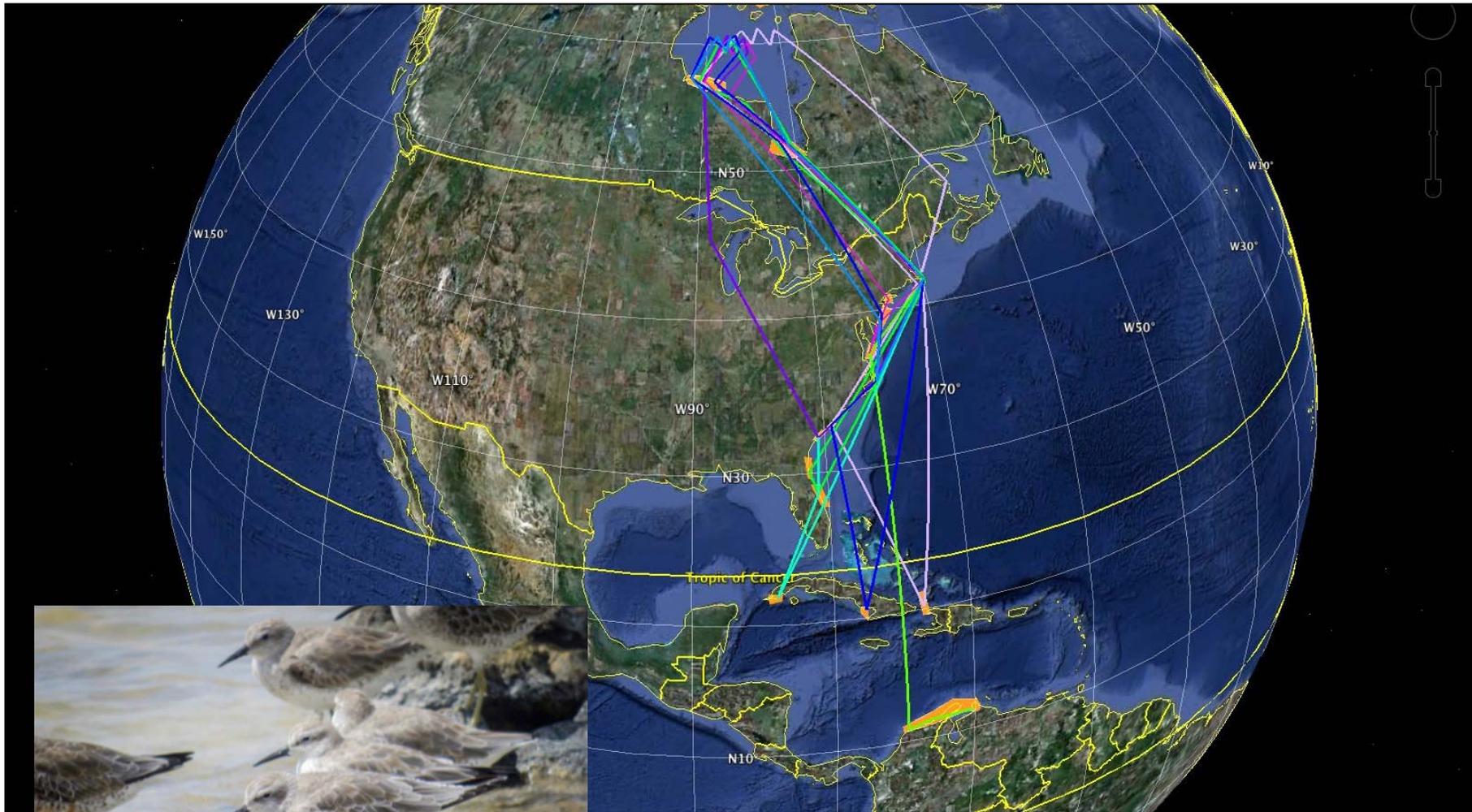
# Tracking the Red Knots' 16,600-Mile Journey

Using lightweight devices, scientists were able to track the yearlong migrations of the tiny shorebirds. The birds feed every spring at Delaware Bay on the eggs of horseshoe crabs. Researchers say overharvesting of the crabs is the cause of the birds' dwindling numbers.



**26,500 km annual migration of Red Knot *Calidris canutus***

# Red Knot migration



Bonaire February 2016

The Center for Conservation Biology  
Migration Routes of Hope the Whimbrel  
2009-2012

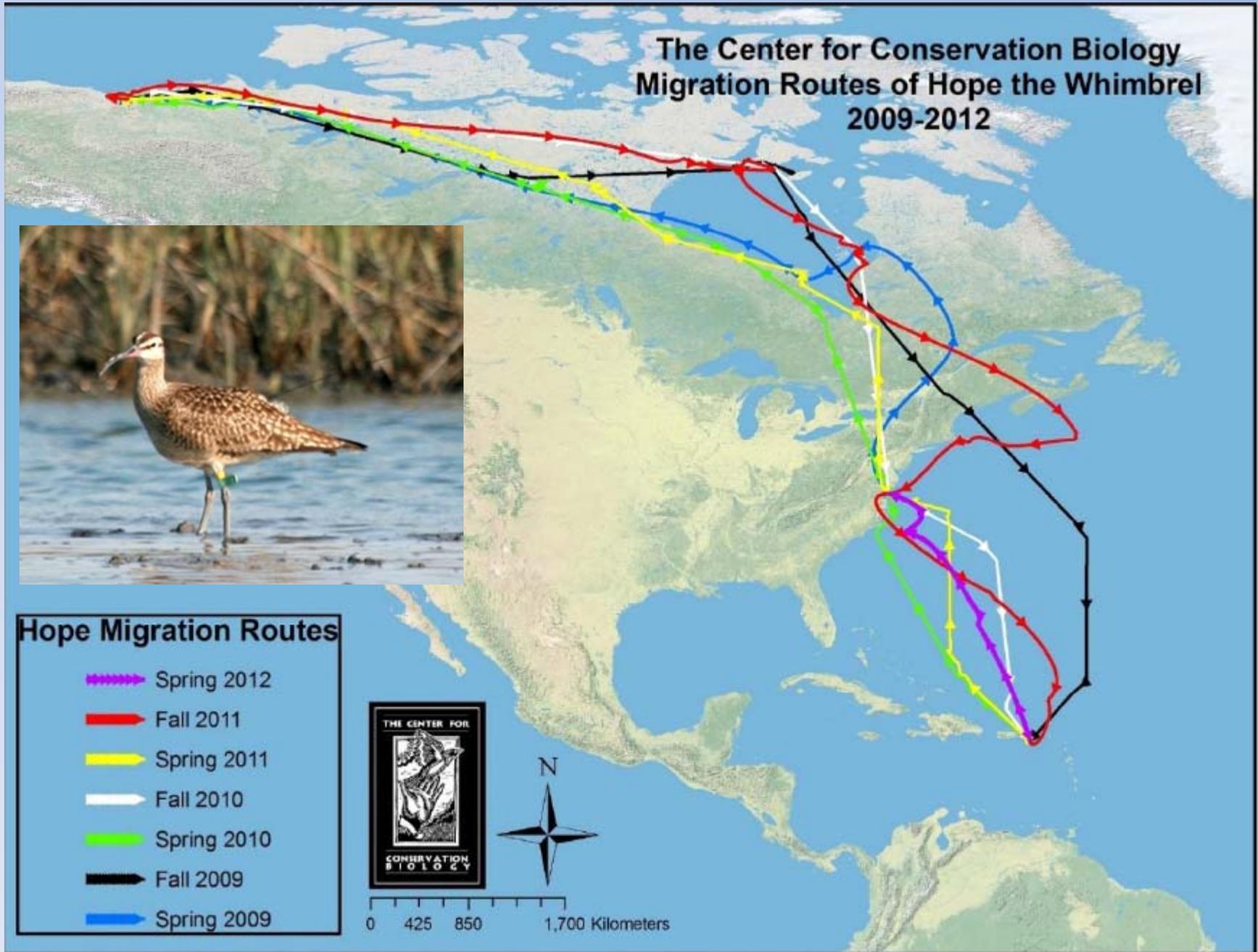


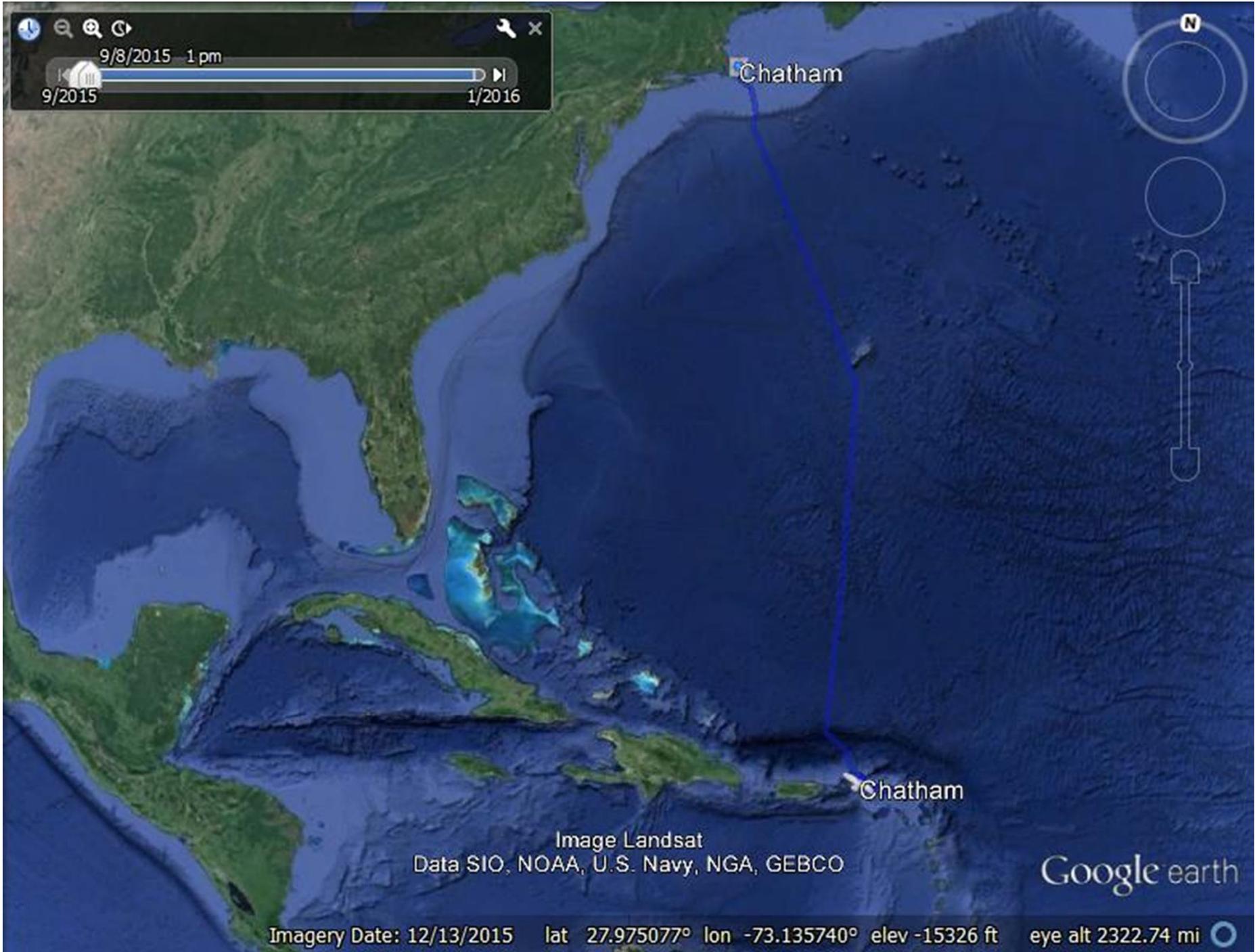
Hope Migration Routes

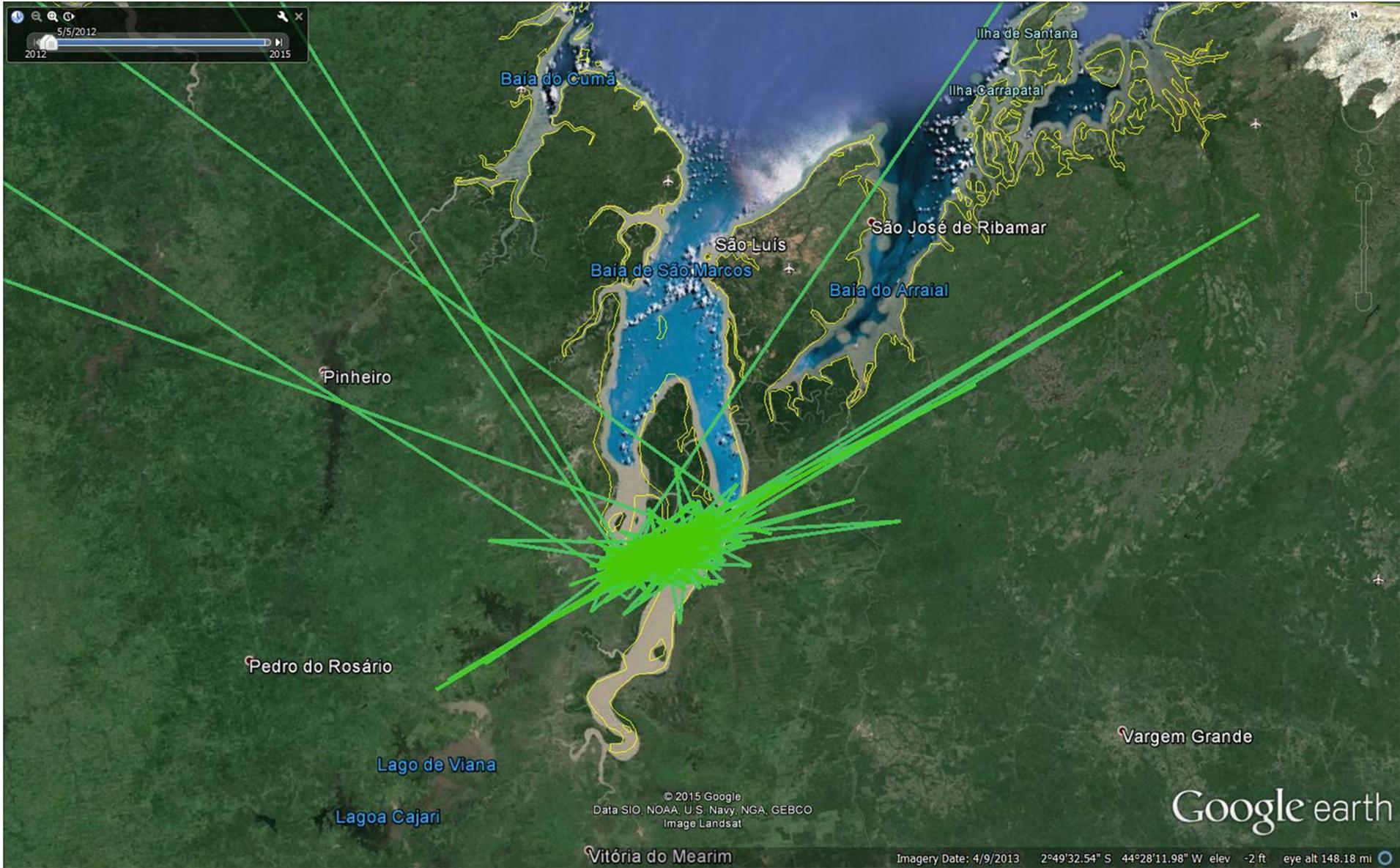
- Spring 2012
- Fall 2011
- Spring 2011
- Fall 2010
- Spring 2010
- Fall 2009
- Spring 2009

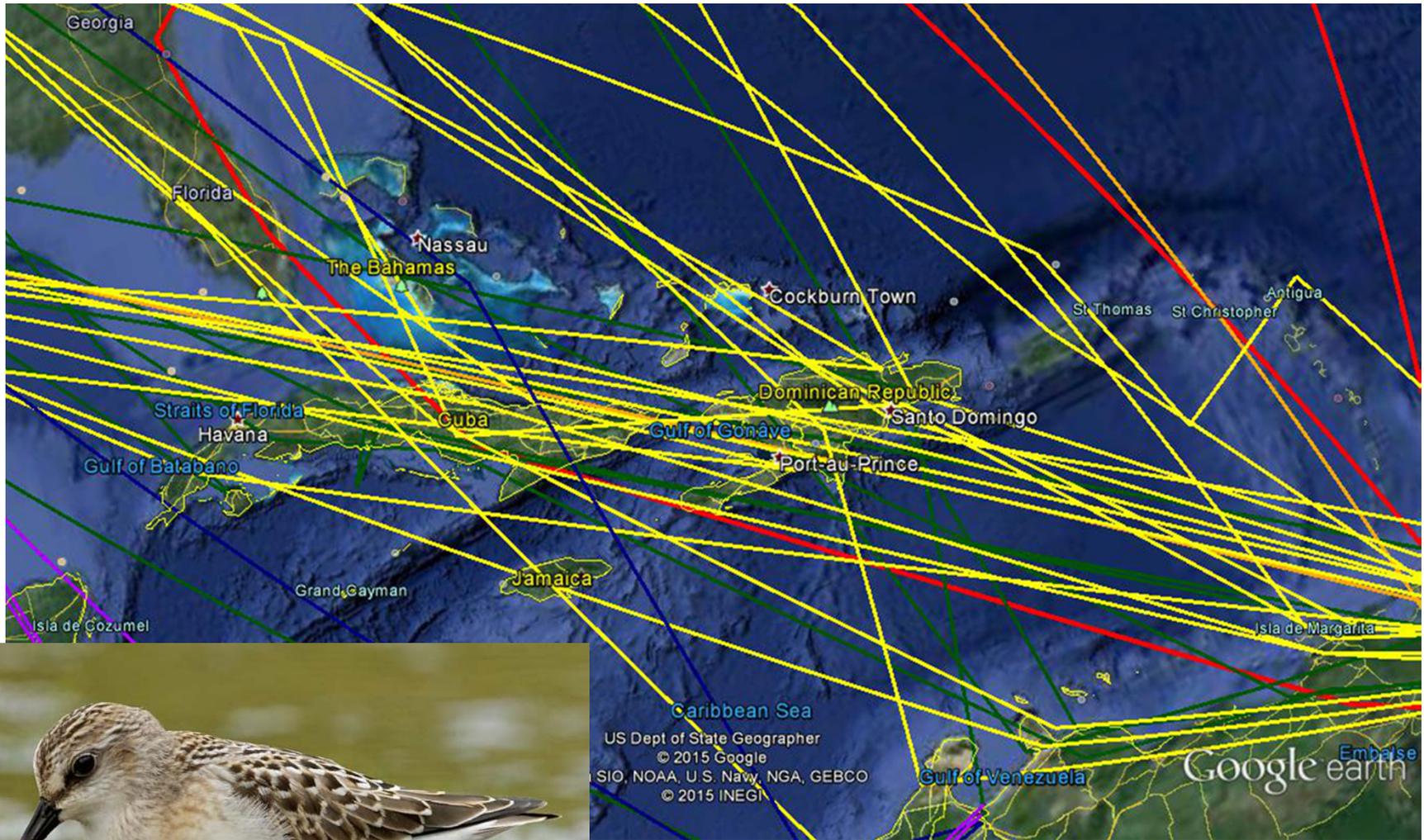


0 425 850 1,700 Kilometers









# Semipalmated Sandpiper migration

Bathurst Island, Nunavut  
N=5 Migration Pathways

### Black-bellied Plover Fall Migration Routes 2014-2015

Mingan Archipelago  
N=1 Migration Pathway



- Black-bellied Plover Migration Routes**
- Tuulli
  - Atausiq
  - Qirniqtaq
  - Tallimat
  - Quqsuqtuq
  - Niapiskau

0 650 1,300 2,600 Miles





# Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network

**96 sites, 15 countries**

**> 15M ha (37M acres)**

**Voluntary**

**Shorebird numbers &  
landowner commitment**

**Hemispheric Council**

**[www.WHSRN.org](http://www.WHSRN.org) /**

**[www.RHRAP.org](http://www.RHRAP.org)**



# Key sites for shorebirds

- Bahamas
  - 8 sites: *Ch. melodus* (5), *Ch. nivosus* (3), *Ch. wilsonia* (1)
- Barbados
  - St Lucy Shooting swamp (*P. dominica*, *T. flavipes*, *T. melanoleuca*)
  - St Phillip Shooting swamp (3 spp. as St Lucy)
- Jamaica
  - Black River Great Morass: *Ch. wilsonia*
  - Old Harbour Bay Pond: *Ch. wilsonia*
- St Kitts and Nevis
  - Ponds of the Southeast Peninsula: *Ch. nivosus*
- St Vincent and the Grenadines
  - Ashton Wetland: *Ch. nivosus*



# ATLANTIC FLYWAY SHOREBIRD INITIATIVE

**“The life history of shorebirds is a chronicle of life on the edge of survival.”**

# About BirdsCaribbean



Regional non-profit dedicated to the conservation of Caribbean birds and their habitats.

For more information:

- [BirdsCaribbean.org](http://BirdsCaribbean.org)
- Email: [info@BirdsCaribbean.org](mailto:info@BirdsCaribbean.org)
- Follow us on Facebook (Caribbean birds), Instagram (BirdsCaribbean) and Twitter (@birdscaribbean)

