



Every autumn millions of birds and bats in North America participate in one of the largest southbound migrations on earth. The Great Lakes are “barriers” to migrating birds and bats because they lack safe places to land and require

much energy to cross. Birds and bats travel through the air during migration periods following migration corridors (similar to our highways). As the human need for communication technology, green energy, and living space expands, so does the intrusion into these migration corridors.

The apparatus you see here is a bird and bat recording device. Birds and bats make sounds as they migrate and these devices are recording those nighttime sounds along the shorelines of several Great Lakes. These recordings are a part of a larger study (using avian radars and historical data) to better understand when and where birds and bats are moving in the air. With this information, we can make thoughtful decisions about developments such as wind turbines, communication towers, and high-rise buildings.

