

Hope is the Thing With Feathers: Americans and Three Birds

Monday, August 18, 2014

7:30 to 9 p.m.

Anheuser-Busch Theatre

The Living World

Admission is free.

No reservations are needed.

Join us for a lecture and book signing by Joel Greenberg, who has over 25 years experience working on natural resource-related issues in the Midwest.

Currently a Research Associate of both the Chicago Academy of Sciences Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum and the Field Museum, he has authored four books including *A Natural History of the Chicago Region* and *A Feathered River Across the Sky: The Passenger Pigeon's Flight to Extinction*.



This presentation looks at three birds, each representing a different outcome at the hands of people. With a population in the billions, the passenger pigeon was the most abundant bird in North America. Yet within a matter of decades, unrelenting human exploitation drove it to extinction. The Kirtland's warbler has since historical times bred in a very limited range and within narrow habitat parameters. Although it costs a million dollars a year, we now know how to maintain healthy populations. The whooping crane declined to 23 living individuals twice. Extensive conservation work has been devoted to saving this charismatic species, but its fate is still an open question. Learn more about these species and what can be done to save them at this exciting lecture.

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