Changes in bird migration phenology over six decades,

a perspective from the Neotropical non-breeding grounds

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Summary

Changes in the migration phenology of birds linked to global change are extensively

documented. Longitudinal studies from temperate breeding grounds have mostly shown

earlier arrivals in the spring and a variety of patterns during fall migration [1,2], yet no studies

have addressed whether and how migration phenology has changed using data from the

tropical non-breeding grounds. Understanding whether changes in migratory phenology are

also evident in non-breeding sites is essential to determine the underlying causes of patterns

documented in breeding areas. Using data from historical scientific collections and modern

repositories of community-science records, we assessed changes in migration phenology of

12 Nearctic-Neotropical long-distance migratory birds in Colombia over six decades. We

also explored whether shared breeding and non-breeding climatic niches explained

variation in phenological patterns observed among species. All species showed shifts in

spring (range -37 – 9 days from peak passage date) or fall (range -26 – 36 days) migration,

but patterns differed among species in ways partly attributable to shared breeding or

wintering climatic niches. Our results, although not yet broadly generalizable, suggest that

birds use cues to time their migration at their non-breeding grounds which are most likely

different to those they use on their breeding grounds. To better understand the effects of

global change on biodiversity, exploring the underlying drivers of phenological changes

with further research integrating more long-term datasets available through scientific

collections and community science platforms should be a priority.

Results and Discussion

We documented large phenological shifts in the spring (March – May) and fall (September

– November) migration of birds over more than six decades in the Neotropics. By

comparing thousands of historical and modern presence records, for a selection of 12

Nearctic-Neotropical long-distance migratory species which had at least 50 historical

records in Colombia (Table 1), and for 99 species for which any historical data were

available, we found that in 2009 – 2022, migrant birds arrived at their non-breeding

grounds 7 days later in the fall (a delay of 1.1 days/decade) compared to 1908 – 1965

(Fig.1A). The observed mean phenological shifts increased when we included data for all

99 species with historical records (Suppl. Fig. 1). Observing such a shift based on data

solely from the non-breeding period is remarkable given the view that cues observable only

in the temperate zone (e.g. temperature and spring green-up[2]) are thought to largely drive

the timing of migratory movements. Our findings thus open an unexplored avenue of

research into the mechanisms at work in the tropics that drive phenological changes in

Nearctic-breeding migratory birds.

When analyzing each species separately, we found that the magnitude of the overall pattern

observed with all records was not shared by all species (Figs.1A-B, Suppl. Fig. 2).

Blackburnian Warbler (*Setophaga fusca*), Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*),

Yellow Warbler (*S. petechia*), American Redstart (*S. ruticilla*), and Swainson's Thrush

(*Catharus ustulatus*), shared an 'extended summer' pattern, with individuals leaving their

breeding grounds later in the fall and then returning earlier in the spring, and these species

showed the largest magnitudes of change (Δ = modern - historical; mean Δ spring = -19

days or -3.1 days/decade, range -37 – 0 days in six decades; mean Δ fall = 24 days or 4

days/decade, range 7 – 36 days in six decades, Figs. 1A-B). However, Bay-breasted

Warbler (*S. castanea*), Tennessee Warbler (*Leiothlypis peregina*), Great-crested Flycatcher

(*Myiarchus crinitus*), and Mourning Warbler (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) showed an

'extended winter' pattern, where birds arrived earlier in the fall and left later in the spring

(mean Δ spring = 4 days or 0.6 days/decade, range 0 - 8 days in six decades; mean Δ fall = -

13 days or -2.1 days/decade, range -25 – -4 days in six decades, Figs.1A-B). Summer

Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) and Northern Waterthrush (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) shared a

pattern in which their entire winter period shifted to a later date, arriving later in the fall and

leaving later in the spring (mean Δ spring = 3 days or 0.5 days/decade, range 1 - 4 days in

six decades; mean Δ fall = 6 days or 1 day/decade, range 3 – 9 days in six decades, Figs.

1A-B). Lastly, Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) showed a unique pattern of shift

in its entire non-breeding period, arriving 8 days earlier in the fall (1.3 days/decade), and

leaving 8 days (1.3 days/decade) earlier in the spring (Figs. 1A-B).

Our results, uniquely based on data from the Neotropical non-breeding grounds, are

consistent with patterns revealed by studies evaluating phenological shifts in the temperate

zone which show evidence of earlier arrivals to the breeding grounds during spring and

varying trends for fall departures [1,3–12]. Aside from a study including data from the Southern

Hemisphere (mainly Australasia) and which highlighted a lack of information from the

Neotropics [7], to our knowledge there has been no other research exploring temporal shifts

in bird migration phenology from the Neotropical non-breeding period. Recent studies from

North America report spring advancements of similar magnitudes to those we observed:

between 0.5 and 2.9 days per decade for 9 species over 60 years (1961-2018) [1], and a spring

advancement of 2.2-2.4 days per decade at a global scale and 0.4 to 1.0 days in North

America over 38 years (1978-2016) [8]. In terms of individual species, our results agree with

those of Horton et al. (2023) for American Redstart and Yellow Warbler, which were both

shown to be arriving on their breeding grounds ~1 day/decade earlier in the spring and

generally later in the fall, though confidence intervals overlapped with 0 [1]. Tennessee

Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, Mouring Warbler, and Bay-breasted Warbler have all been shown to be arriving on the breeding grounds ~1 day/decade earlier in the spring while we detected later spring departures from the non-breeding grounds for these species (Fig.1B). Although later departures from the non-breeding grounds can result in faster overall migrations if birds are in good-quality habitats[13], more study is needed to confirm whether this is indeed the case for the aforementioned species. What we can ascertain is that patterns of global change are heterogeneous and thus responses and drivers of change in temperate regions are not necessarily the same as those acting at lower latitudes[4,7]. It is therefore both surprising and enlightening that we find similarities with studies from the temperate zone. Our work is also consistent with prior temperate-zone studies revealing that phenological shifts in migration vary among species [3,5,6], which raises questions about the mechanisms at work within the Neotropics that may drive such changes in different species and populations [7,14]. Having said this, we acknowledge that the 12 species with information in this study represent a low sample size to provide broad generalizable conclusions, so we urge future research involving other species to test and build on our findings.

We hypothesized that species with equivalent patterns of phenological shift might be responding similarly to common environmental cues for breeding and migration[15] owing to them potentially sharing breeding or non-breeding climatic niches. If this were the case, then we would expect that species sharing phenological shift patterns would also show a high degree of overlap in their breeding or non-breeding climatic niche compared to the niche overlap between species with different phenological patterns. We characterized niches based on seven uncorrelated climatic variables used in earlier work to describe

Neotropical migratory bird climatic niches [15]: elevation, aspect, slope, maximum

temperature, minimum temperature, precipitation seasonality, and temperature seasonality.

Species sharing the extended summer pattern had higher mean overlap in their breeding

climatic niche compared to their winter climatic niche (Fig.2A, mean $D_{summer} = 0.61 \pm 0.12$

SD, mean $D_{winter} = 0.49 \pm 0.22$ SD, $P = 0.09$, $n = 10$ comparisons, 5 spp, see also Suppl.

Figs.3-4). Conversely, species sharing the extended winter pattern had a higher winter niche

overlap compared to their breeding climatic niche overlap (mean $D_{winter} = 0.61 \pm 0.19$ SD,

mean $D_{summer} = 0.44 \pm 0.27$ SD, $P = 0.01$, $n = 6$ comparisons, 4 spp see also Suppl. Figs.3-

4). The two species sharing the late winter shift pattern had a low breeding niche overlap

value of $D_{summer} = 0.04$, and a high winter niche overlap of $D_{winter} = 0.72$ (Fig. 2A, Table 1,

see also Suppl. Figs. 3-4). We did not detect large differences in climatic niche overlap

between groups of species sharing phenological shift patterns (intra group) and those with

different patterns (inter group), either in the breeding period (Fig. 2B , Suppl. Table 1, intra

group mean $D_{summer} = 0.52 \pm 0.23$ SD, inter group mean $D_{summer} = 0.40 \pm 0.27$ SD, $P =$

0.94), or the non-breeding period (intra group mean $D_{winter} = 0.55 \pm 0.21$ SD, inter group

mean $D_{winter} = 0.60 \pm 0.18$ SD, $P = 0.18$). Although our results apply only to the species we

evaluated, the patterns we observed suggest that summer climatic niches may influence

phenological shifts that imply a longer breeding period, potentially through an early onset

of spring and later fall, whilst non-breeding climatic conditions may be influencing

phenological shifts which imply a longer winter period, perhaps through shifts in the

precipitation regime on the non-breeding grounds. More research is needed to further test

these hypotheses and to assess the generality of our findings across more species.

Both cue-driven environmental mechanisms (e.g. temperature, precipitation, photoperiod,

vegetation greening) and response-driven organismal mechanisms (e.g. trophic level,

migratory strategy, ecological specialization), which vary among species, may underlie

phenological shifts [2,16–18]. However, the cues to which migratory birds respond on their

non-breeding grounds likely differ from those acting on the breeding grounds [7], particularly

when these areas are distant. In North America, temperature appears to be the main cue-

driven mechanism underlying shifts in spring arrivals and fall departures [1,9,10]. Because

seasonal temperature variation in northern South America is minimal, changes in

temperature are unlikely drivers of the patterns we observed. Alternatively, changes in

precipitation cycles may provide tangible cues to drive phenological shifts in migration to

and from the Neotropical non-breeding grounds [7,19]. Regular rain and drought cycles, as

well as precipitation fluctuations associated with climatic phenomena such as El Niño and

La Niña can affect resource availability in the tropics [20–22], and migratory birds respond to

variation in precipitation on their non-breeding grounds by modifying their migration

schedules [23–26].

Whether precipitation on the non-breeding grounds in turn relates to temperature or other

environmental conditions on the breeding-grounds is not well understood, and how

landbirds may shift their cue perception as their migration advances needs more study [27,28].

We are unaware of research on organismal-driven cues (e.g. social foraging cues, individual

breeding condition) potentially acting in the tropics and which may also be influencing

phenological shifts in migration [7]. Furthermore, the 12 species we analyzed in this study

were those with enough historical data to allow meaningful comparisons across time, yet

the patterns we uncovered are likely more general given that phenological shifts in

migration have been detected in a broad range of Nearctic-Neotropical migratory species

(Suppl. Fig. 1) [1]. There is a broad and wide-open research avenue exploring how migratory

species, populations and individuals respond to environmental and organismal cues

throughout their annual cycle and whether these responses translate into adaptation to

global change [29], or to increases in phenological mismatches [30,31].

Long-distance Nearctic-Neotropical migratory birds are responding to climate and global

change by shifting their fall and spring migration schedules, both on the breeding [1,8,10] and

non-breeding grounds (this study). Yet, the persistent and steep population declines of

Nearctic Neotropical long-distance migrants [32] and the broad range of responses to global

change in different species, suggest that neither plasticity or adaptability may be quick

enough or uniform among species to respond to the rising pressures posed by a rapidly

changing world [2,8,30,31]. Phenological shifts in migration can accentuate mismatches between

arrivals, departures, and resource peaks that migrants depend on during different periods of

their annual cycle [30,33–35]. The fitness and demographic consequences of such mismatches

could drive declines in certain populations[34].

Our study highlights the potential to address questions on a global scale by incorporating

data from multiple sources. Biological collections provide a snapshot of biodiversity at

specific times and locations and, thus, allow tracking of changes dating back decades or

even centuries. However, historical sampling is not uniform across time or geographical

locations in the global south. Multiple studies addressing changes in migration phenology

in birds have been possible due to long-term monitoring through bird banding and

standardized surveys. Such datasets are often limited in many tropical regions due to

insufficient or poorly documented long-term biodiversity monitoring efforts. The growing

popularity and usage of community science platforms have increased the accessibility to

data that would otherwise have required extensive effort and resources to be obtained[36].

These data have proven sufficient to detect patterns over a wide diversity of timescales and

geographic ranges[37]. Despite differences in the amount of data obtainable between

biological collections and citizen science platforms, our results show how both sources of

data can complement each other. We point out yet again the importance of a more complete

understanding of the annual cycle of migratory organisms [38,39], where events occurring on

the non-breeding grounds and Neotropical stopover sites are also affecting the phenological

dynamics of migration.

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We thank Jose Vicente Rodríguez and Maria Isabel Moreno for sharing Conservation

International's historical dataset of bird records for Colombia (Ara Colombia). This study is

part of the Colombia Resurvey Project which aimed to assess changes in bird abundance

and diversity after a century of change since the American Museum of Natural History

expeditions led by Frank Chapman in the early 1900's. Dr. Nick Bayly and three

anonymous reviewers provided helpful comments and discussion on earlier versions of the

manuscript.

Author contributions

CDC and CG designed the study. DAG, BMA and CG compiled and analyzed the data. All

authors contributed to result interpretation and manuscript writing.

Declaration of interests

Authors declare no competing interests.

Main text Figure and Table legends

Figure 1. A. Phenological patterns comparing historical and modern data of 12 Nearctic-Neotropical long-distance migratory bird species detected in Colombia. The thick black curve shows the historical phenology, the light gray curves represent 1000 random draws from the modern dataset matching the historical number of records and reconstructing a distribution of modern density curves. Vertical dashed lines illustrate the peak migration dates for spring and fall (black dashed = historical) and the minimum and maximum estimates of peak dates from the modern random draws of data (gray dashed = modern). Pannels 1-4 illustrate the four phenological categories detected in this study**:** extended summer (i.e., species currently arrive to the non-breeding grounds later in the fall and leave them earlier in the spring), extended winter (i.e., species currently arrive to the non-breeding grounds earlier in the fall and leave them later in the spring), late winter shift (i.e., the whole non-breeding period shifted to a later date), and early winter shift (i.e. the whole non-breeding period shifted to an earlier date). **B.** Phenological shifts and confidence intervals estimated for 12 individual species. Difference in peak migration dates and their confidence intervals were estimated as the range of Δ = modern – historical for each random iteration and are presented as days/decade. Thus, negative values indicate current earlier dates and positive values indicate current later dates. Related to Figure S1 and S2.

Figure 2. A. Climatic niche overlap of 12 Nearctic-Neotropical long-distance migratory

bird species per phenological category. Species under the "extended summer" phenological

category share a higher proportion of their breeding climatic niche ($D_{summer} = 0.61 \pm 0.12$

SD) compared to their non-breeding niche (mean $D_{winter} = 0.49 \pm 0.22$ SD), whilst species

with an extended winter share a higher proportion of their non-breeding climatic niche

(mean $D_{winter} = 0.61 \pm 0.19$ SD) compared to their breeding niche (mean $D_{summer} = 0.44 \pm$

0.27 SD). The two species sharing the late winter shift pattern show low breeding niche

overlap ($D_{summer} = 0.04$), and high winter niche overlap ($D_{winter} = 0.72$). **B.** Comparisons of

niche overlap between species sharing phenological shifts (intra-group) and those not

sharing them (inter-group) did not show large differences in either the breeding or the non-

breeding period. Related to Table S1 and Figures S3 and S4.

Table 1. Number of historical and modern records available for each species and their

classification of phenological shift category.

STAR Methods

Resource availability

Lead Contact: Camila Gómez (camila.gomez@selva.org.co)

Material availability: https://github.com/camilgomo/Changes-in-bird-migration-

phenology-over-six-decades

Data and code availability: https://github.com/camilgomo/Changes-in-bird-

migration-phenology-over-six-decades

Method details

Historical and modern data

245
246
We compiled all known historical records of Neotropical migratory birds in Colombia

between 1908 and 1965 obtained from public data repositories of scientific collections

(dataset available in GitHub: https://github.com/camilgomo/Changes-in-bird-migration-

phenology-over-six-decades). The historical period, comprising close to six decades, was

established as first, a period with enough data to make any sensible comparisons, and

second, a period reflecting pre-industrialization and globalization environmental conditions,

which exponentially increased after the 80's (NOAA 2023,

https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/climate-at-a-glance/global/time-

series/globe/land_ocean/ytd/12/1850-2023). We believe these human-induced changes have

potentially exacerbated environmental and climatic variations experienced by migratory

birds currently. Our complete historical database comprised information for 2455

specimens of 99 species from 31 scientific collections worldwide. For every record we

verified species, date, locality, and geographic coordinates by accessing the original

collection records [40]. For the individual species comparisons, we selected species that had

complete historical records for at least 50 individuals and removed austral migrants and

species with both resident and migratory populations in Colombia due to potential

ambiguity in their identification (e.g. *Vireo olivaceus, Tyrannus savana*). This reduced the

historical dataset to 876 individuals of 12 species (dataset available in GitHub:

https://github.com/camilgomo/Changes-in-bird-migration-phenology-over-six-decades).

We used the global community science platform eBird [41] to obtain contemporary records of

Neotropical migratory birds in Colombia between 2009 and 2022, for all Nearctic

Neotropical migrants that winter or fly through Colombia, and for just the 12 species

selected above in our historical dataset. After filtering for verified records, and eliminating

duplicates, we gathered a total of 333,068 observations.

Exploration of potential biases in historical and modern datasets

We wanted to make sure that any patterns we observed in the migration phenology were not

a result of temporal or spatial biases inherent to our datasets. We therefore explored

whether there were temporal and spatial biases by plotting the availability of records by

year, month and by latitude and longitude. Complementarily, we ran a Durbin-Watson test

for autocorrelation between the number of records and latitude, longitude and year, using

the R package *car*[42]. We did this both for the complete datasets, and for individual species.

The historical dataset did not show any temporal bias or spatial biases, whereas the modern

data showed a correlation with year (Suppl. Table 2, Suppl. Figs. 5-7). However, this is

unsurprising since data recorded on the eBird platform has incremented annually since the

platform was launched, so we continued with our analyses as described below.

Comparison of historical and modern migration phenology

We constructed density plots of migration phenology for the historical and modern datasets,

both for all species together and for each species individually. We overlapped historical and

modern phenology plots and determined the date of maximum density of migrants in

Colombia during spring (peak abundance between March and May) and fall migration

(peak abundance during September and November) by calculating the local density

maximum for each period. We considered the day of maximum density to be a reliable

metric of the general phenological pattern of a species [43]. We then estimated the difference

in peak dates by subtracting the modern from historical peak dates for fall and spring.

Negative values mean fall or spring migration currently peaks earlier, and positive values

mean fall or spring migration currently peaks later compared to 1908-1965 in Colombia.

Because we had such a broad difference in number of records between the historical and

modern datasets (Table 1), which could potentially bias our comparisons, the modern

phenology curves were generated by randomly drawing from the modern dataset the same

number of historical records available for each species, then estimating the local maxima

date and iterating this procedure 1000 times. The differences between the historical peak

date of passage and each of the 1000 iterated modern peak dates, provided our confidence

intervals for the phenological shifts observed during spring and fall migration. All analyses

were carried out in R [44] and all code and data are available in GitHub

(https://github.com/camilgomo/Changes-in-bird-migration-phenology-over-six-decades).

Breeding and non-breeding climatic niche overlap for species sharing phenological shift

patterns

We used the R package ecospat [45] to estimate climatic niche overlap values for species

which shared phenological patterns of migration shift in four categories based on the trends

of the day of maximum density between historic and modern data: 1) extended summer

(earlier spring departure and later fall arrival to the non-breeding grounds), 2) extended

winter (later spring departure and earlier fall arrival to the non-breeding grounds), 3) late

winter shift (the whole non-breeding period shifted to a later date) and 4) early winter shift

(the whole winter period shifted to an earlier date).

We compiled monthly climatic variables for the breeding period (June – August) and the

non-breeding period (December – February) using Worldclim data [46]. Seven uncorrelated

climatic variables were selected[15], elevation, aspect, slope, maximum temperature,

minimum temperature, precipitation seasonality, and temperature seasonality. Current

breeding and non-breeding distributions for all species were obtained from eBird Status and

Trends [47,48] by selecting the specific weeks that correspond to the breeding and non-

breeding periods for our target species. We then filtered breeding and non-breeding ranges

within the top 50% probability of occurrence of each species' distribution range and then

generated 5000 random points to be overlaid on the range and get presence xy coordinates

for each species. Random breeding and non-breeding distribution coordinates were used to

extract climate values for each species, and an additional 10000 random points were used to

extract climatic background values for the whole of North America for the breeding period,

and Central and South America for the non-breeding period).

Following Broennimann et al. [45,49] we conducted a multivariate comparison of climatic

niche overlap between species which shared phenological shifts in historical and modern

migration patterns. Climatic niche overlap is measured using Warren's D statistic which

varies from 0 (no climatic niche overlap), to 1 (climatic niches are exactly the same) [15,49].

We compared values of niche overlap between species sharing the same phenological

pattern (intra-group) and those not sharing them (inter-group). To determine whether mean

D values were significantly different between phenological shift categories and both within

and between category groups, we estimated the observed difference in mean values, and

randomized each dataset to obtain a distribution of 999 random mean differences. The

probability (P) associated with our observed difference in means was obtained by locating

the observed difference within the random distribution of differences in means. All data and

code are available form GitHub (https://github.com/camilgomo/Changes-in-bird-migration-

phenology-over-six-decades)**.**

Key resources table

RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Deposited data		
Raw historical records of Neotropical migratory birds recorded in Colombia between 1908 - 1965	GBIF VertNet, Conservation International Colombia	https://www.gbif.org/ http://www.vertnet.org/
Processed historical dataset of Neotropical migratory birds recorded in Colombia 1908 - 1965	This study	https://github.com/camilgomo/Changes-in-bird-migration-phenology-over-six-decades
Raw modern observation records of Neotropical migratory birds in Colombia 2009-2022	eBird	https://ebird.org/

Processed modern dataset of Neotropical migratory birds in Colombia 2009-2022	This study	https://github.com/camilgomo/Changes-in-bird-migration-phenology-over-six-decades
Breeding and non-breeding distribution rasters of neotropical migrants	eBird Status and trends	https://science.ebird.org/es/status-and-trends/download-data
Presence geographic coordinates for breeding and non-breeding climatic niche overlap	This study	https://github.com/camilgomo/Changes-in-bird-migration-phenology-over-six-decades
Monthly climatic variables	Worldclim	https://www.worldclim.org/
Other		
R Code and data for migration phenology comparisons	This study	GitHub

R Code and data for climatic niche overlap comparisons	This study	GitHub

Supplemental information

Document S1. Figures S1-S7 and Tables S1 and S2.

Figure S1. Phenological change graphs for ninety-nine migratory species recorded in

Colombia between 1908 – 1965. The thick black curve shows the historical phenology, the

light gray curves represent 1000 random draws from the modern dataset matching the

historical number of records and reconstructing a distribution of modern density curves.

Vertical black dashed lines indicate the peak dates of historical spring and fall passage, and

the gray dashed lines show the minimum and maximum peak dates from the random draw

of 1000 density curves from the modern dataset. Related to Figure 1.

Figure S2. Phenological change graphs for each of the 12 Nearctic-Neotropical long-

distance migratory birds with more than 50 historical records assessed in this study.

Extended summer: A) Black-and-white Warbler, B) Blackburnian Warbler, C) Yellow

Warbler, D) American Redstart; E) Swainson's Thrush. Extended Winter: F) Great Crested

Flycatcher, G) Mourning Warbler, H) Bay-breasted Warbler, I) Tennessee Warbler. Late

winter shift: J) Northern Waterthrush, K) Summer Tanager. Early winter shift: L) Acadian

Flycatcher. The thick black curve shows the historical phenology, the light gray curves

represent 1000 random draws from the modern dataset matching the historical number of

records and reconstructing a distribution of modern density curves. Vertical black dashed

lines indicate the historical peak dates of spring and fall passage, and the gray dashed lines

show the minimum and maximum peak dates from the random draw of 1000 density curves

from the modern dataset. Related to Figure 1.

Figure S3. Breeding climatic niche overlap between species that shared their phenological

category. Extended Summer (A – J), Extended Winter (K – P), Late winter shift (Q). Niche

overlap D values for each comparison shown in the box. Related to Figure 2 and Table S1.

Figure S4. Non-breeding climatic niche overlap between species that shared their

phenological shift category. Extended Summer (A – J), Extended Winter (K – P), Late

winter shift (Q). Niche overlap D values for each comparison shown in each box. Related

to Figure 2 and Table S1.

Figure S5. Number of historical records available between 1908-1965, show that there is

no detectable temporal bias in the availability of records. The high numbers between 1911

and 1914 correspond to the Natural History expeditions led by the American Museum of

Natural History at that time (Chapman 1917). Related to STAR Methods.

Figure S6. Evaluation of the latitudinal and temporal distribution of historical (red) and

modern (green) records of migratory species suggest there are no temporal and spatial

biases in the data that could be influencing the patterns observed. Related to STAR

Methods.

Figure S7. Maps of Colombia showing the geographic distribution of migratory bird

records in the A. historical dataset, and B. modern dataset. Related to STAR Methods.

Table S1. Values of breeding climatic niche overlap (Dsummer), and B. non-breeding

climatic niche overlap (Dwinter) estimated for all pairs of species in this study. Related to

Figure 2 and Figure S3 and S4.

Table S2. Values of the Durbin-Watson autocorrelation test between the number of records

of migratory birds and year, longitude and latitude, both for historical and modern datasets.

Values around 2 of the D-W statistic show no autocorrelation of residuals. Values closer to

0 or to 4 show a positive or negative correlation respectively and are shown in bold.

Related to STAR Methods and Figures S5 – S7.

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A

Intra group comparisons

B