



## *Patuxent Science Meeting 2004 Poster Abstract*

---

### **Modeling Population Change and Abundance of Black Ducks and Mallards in Eastern North America**

John R. Sauer, William A. Link, and Daniel Endreson

In this project, we are gathering survey and environmental data for black ducks in eastern Canada and the northeastern United States. We will use the information to model spatial and temporal patterns in black duck populations. Geographic information on weather (temperature and precipitation), remotely-sensed habitat data, and wetland data have been collected from a variety of sources and placed into a Geographic Information System. Often, data are not available over the entire black duck breeding range, and an important part of this project is to attempt to find consistently collected rangewide habitat data. Presently, a fixed-wing, transect-based survey and a plot-based, helicopter survey provide information on population change in black ducks in eastern North America, and initial modeling efforts have focused on comparing results from the surveys and identifying regions and time periods of disagreement.