



Image: Queensland Museum – Jeff Wright

SEASONAL MIGRATIONS: transiting environments

FREE and LIVE STREAMED

We marvel at the phenomenon of mass migrations in nature where each species is driven to take extraordinary journeys each year. Distances travelled may span within or between continents, but each journey is a feat of endurance and challenges are faced including at their destinations.

Our speakers will discuss their research on the intercontinental migration of dragonflies, butterflies and birds, the transit of iconic fish species from marine to inland waterways, and strategies to support the success of their journeys.

Program and speaker highlights

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Our speakers are from the Smithsonian Institution National Zoological Park and Conservation Biology Institute, the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, James Cook University (Australia), and the Queensland Museum.



When USA 5.30–6.45pm Wednesday
15 June 2022 EDT (UTC –6 hours)

AUSTRALIA 7.30–8.45am Thursday
16 June 2022 AEST (UTC +10 hours)

PROGRAM



Caitlin Syme Office of the Queensland Chief Scientist is our MC.

Session 1 Intercontinental journeys



T. Scott Sillett Head, Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, Smithsonian National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute. Scott has a particular focus on the cyclical journeys of migratory songbirds, waterfowl and shorebirds integral to North, Central and South American ecosystems; and the effect of global climate cycles and mortality during migration on population dynamics.



Chris Burwell Senior Scientist and Curator (Entomology) Queensland Museum. Chris will discuss some examples of intercontinental migrations in butterflies and dragonflies. Individual Globe skimmer dragonflies are thought to make remarkable transoceanic flights. Chris will also explore intracontinental movements of masses of butterflies in Australia.

Session 2 Fish migrations from sea to inland waterways



Matthew Ogburn Principal Investigator, Senior Scientist Fisheries Conservation, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. Matt's research ranges from restoring migrations of river herring from the ocean to freshwater spawning habitats to sustaining the coastal migrations of shark and stingrays.



Nathan Waltham Senior Research Fellow, James Cook University. Nathan's interest is in wetland and coastal ecosystem restoration for inland migration of fish, including culturally, environmentally and economically important fish species such as barramundi.

Panel Q&A



This your chance to pose questions to our speakers, with the session moderated by **Andrea Santy**, Interim Director, Office of Academic Appointments and Internships, Smithsonian Institution.

Post-event networking session 6.45pm – 7.15pm | 8.45am – 9.15am+

You're welcome to join our speakers for a relaxed and informal chat—a Zoom link will be available at the end of the panel session.

For more information about this event, please contact us: qldscience@qld.gov.au or FellowsSI@si.edu. We look forward to seeing you online.

Best regards
The Events team