



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

# Nonlead Ammunition and Eagle Conservation in New York

*Compensatory Mitigation: Thinking Outside the  
Box*

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# Largescale Wind – Threatened & Endangered Species

- Bald Eagles = 6
  - State Threatened
  - Year-round presence in NY
- Golden Eagles = 3
  - State Endangered
    - Migrate through NY
    - Some wintering
- Avoid, minimize, & mitigate
  - Net Conservation Benefit (NCB)



# Threatened & Endangered Species

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- Mitigation Options
  - Applicant driven
  - BAEA
    - Nest protections
    - Not retrofits



# Threatened & Endangered Species

- Mitigation Options
  - Applicant driver
  - GOEA
    - ???
  - Reducing lead poisoning?



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Modeling with uncertain science: estimating mitigation credits from abating lead poisoning in Golden Eagles

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# Thinking outside of the box.....

- Habitat conservation =
- Unique circumstances for GOEA

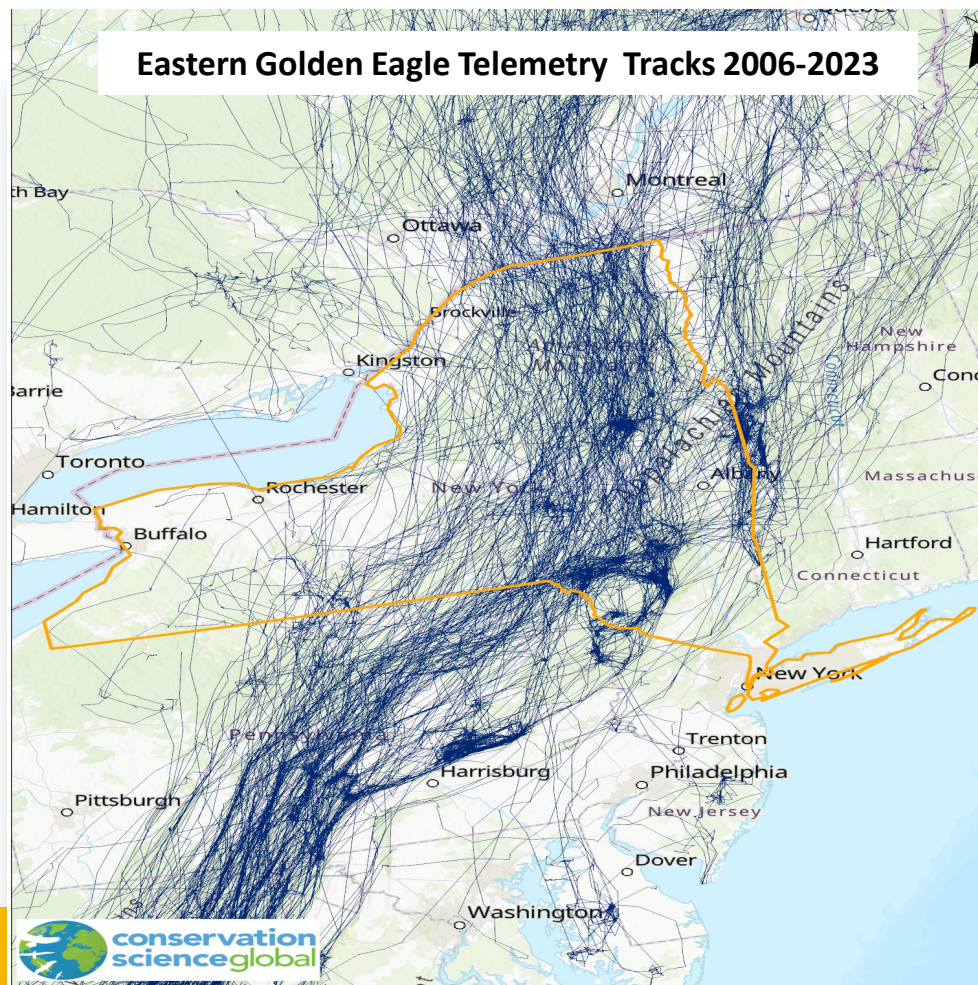


- Primarily migratory occurrences
- Constraints of in state mitigation
- Potential for lead abatement project



# NYS DEC Lead Ammo Working Group

- Cooperative Effort
  - Department of Environmental Conservation
  - Department of Health
  - Cornell's University Wildlife Health Program
  - The Venison Donation Coalition
  - New York State Conservation Council
  - Audubon New York

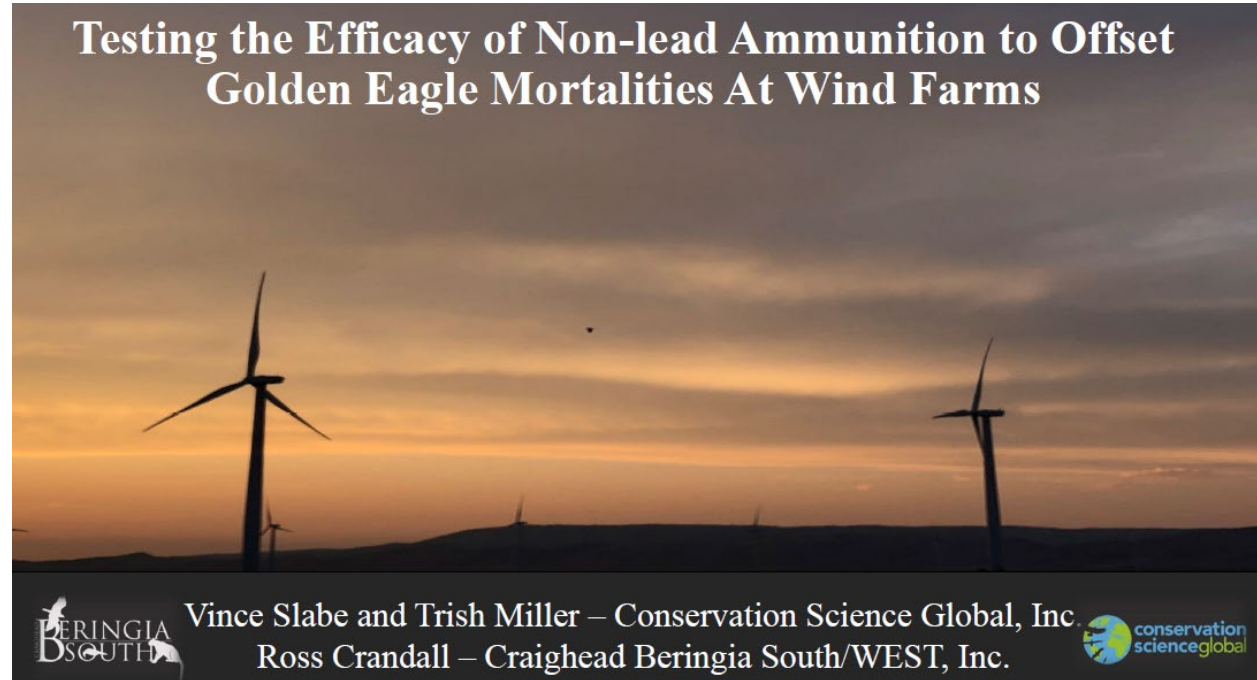


Data were collected by the Eastern Golden Eagle Working Group

# 2021 Eastern Golden Eagle Working Group

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- Introduction to:
  - Conservation Science Global & USGS researchers
- Key example of implementation
- Eastern US interest

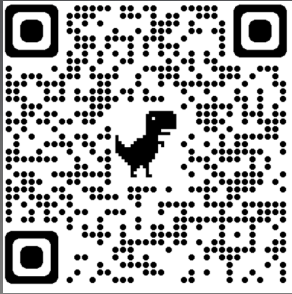


# NCB - Mitigation

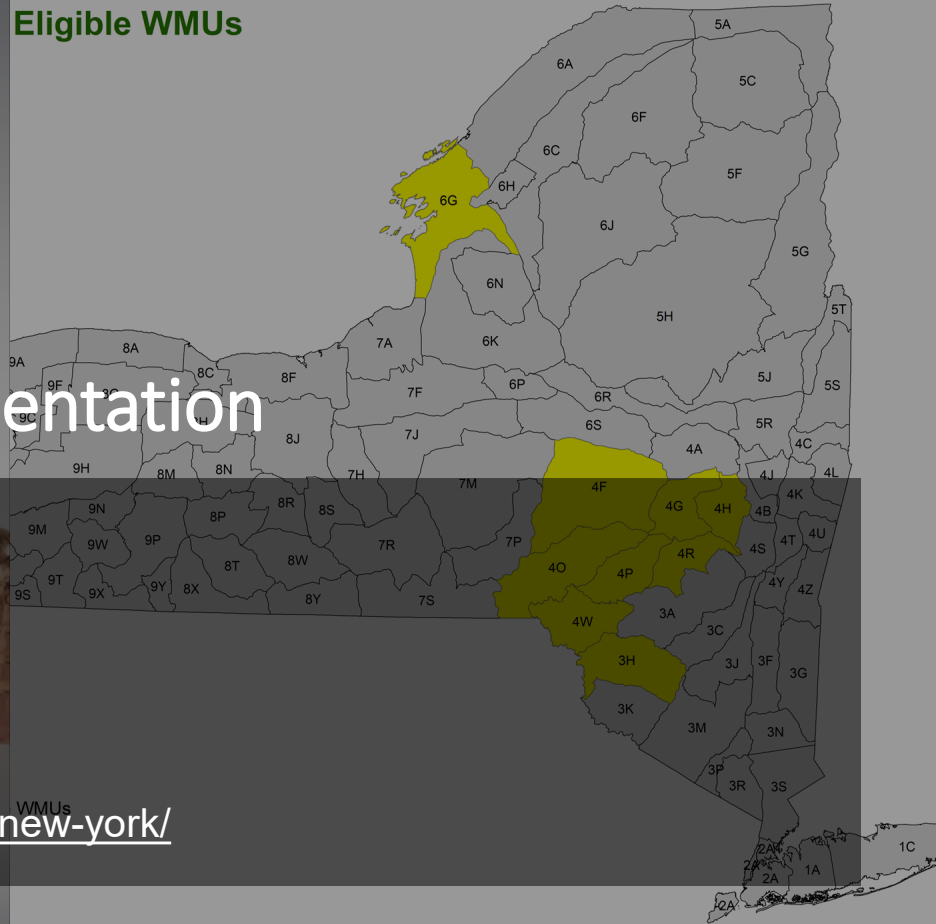
- WEST consulted with CSG
- Proposal/NCB Plan
  - Parameterized Cochrane Model
    - Best available data
  - NCB
    - 6 BAEA/3 GOEA
    - + Social Science Questions







## Eligible WMUs



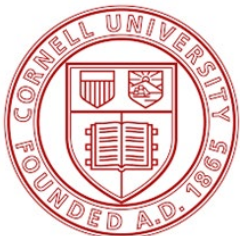
# Development and Implementation

- Work through study design
- Site selection
- Rebate process
- Survey questions
- Program outreach/education
- <https://huntersforeagleconservation.org/new-york/>

# Assessing Success/Working with Uncertainty

- Cochrane model
  - NY specific data
    - Eagle abundance survey
    - Eagle scavenging dynamics
- Ultimately determine feasibility for future use
- Understand more social science dynamics of nonlead ammo use:
  - Eagle conservation
  - Incentives via rebates





Thank you!

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Several photos provided by:  
Dave Brandes  
Estelle Shuttleworth