

# Prescribed burning effects on nesting by Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) in a restored Ozark border landscape

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MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN



**LAKE SUPERIOR**  
STATE UNIVERSITY



# Introduction



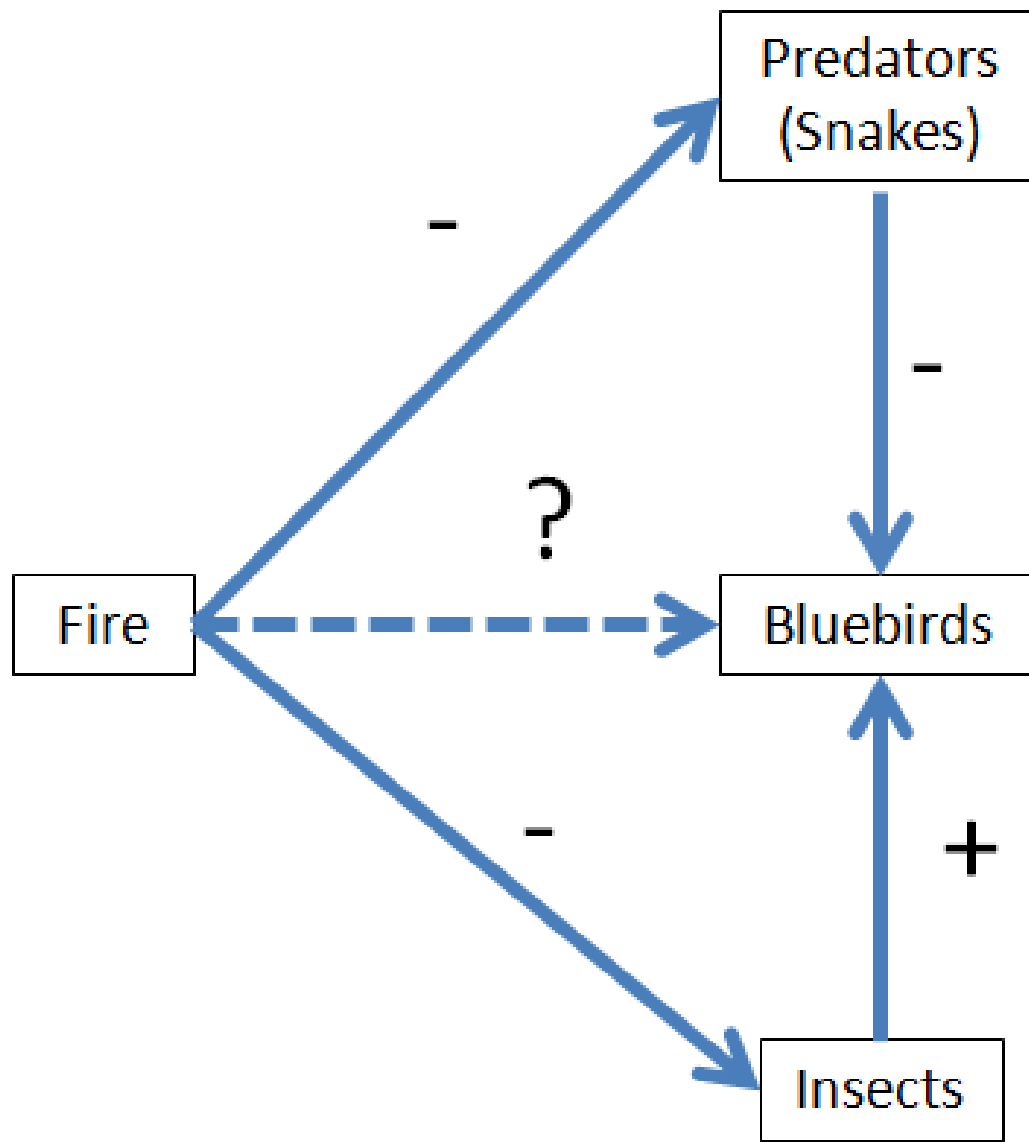
Photo provided  
by US Fish and  
Wildlife Service



# About Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*)



Photo: Wikimedia Commons





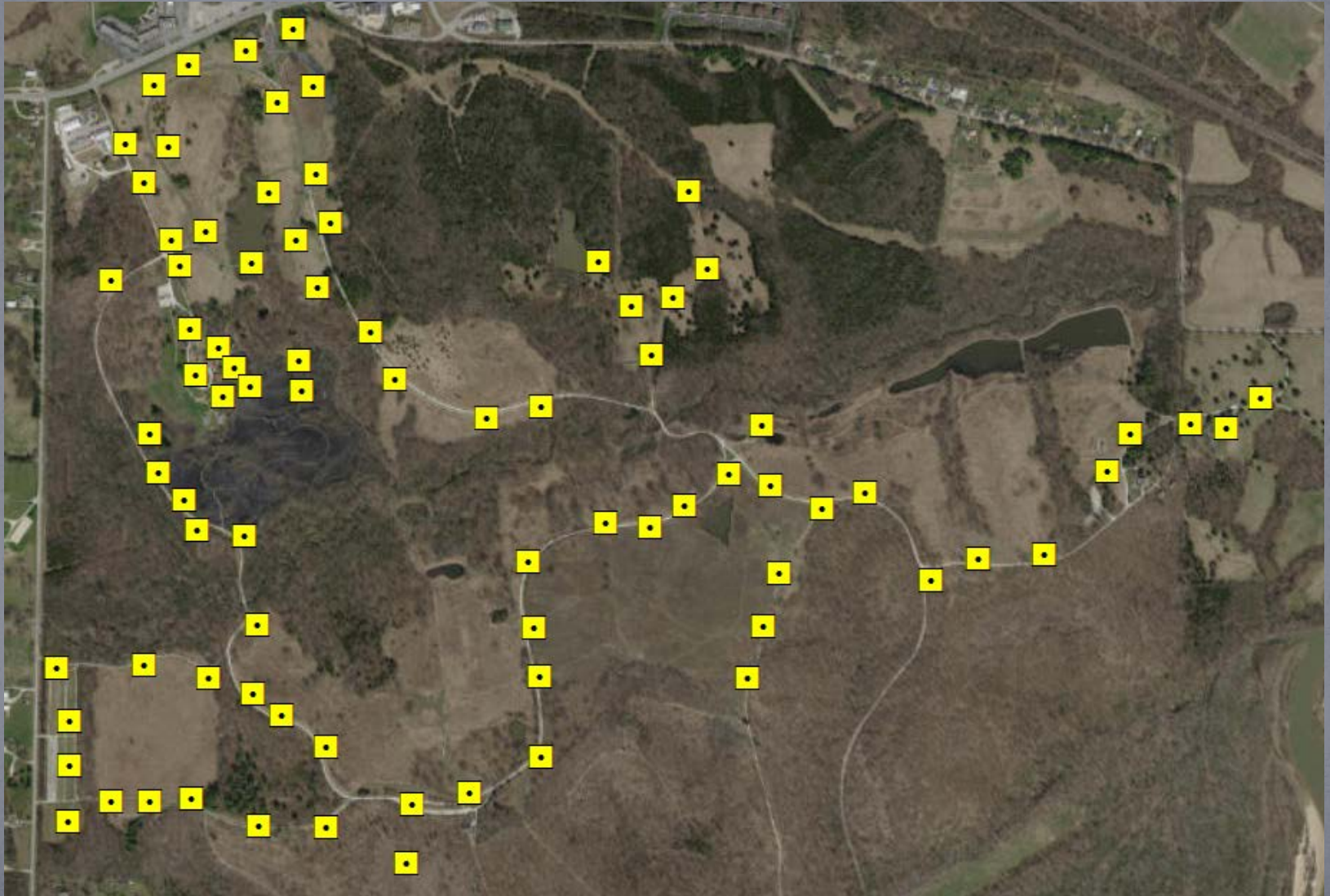
# Shaw Nature Reserve (SNR)



Photo by Zhi Lu



# Bluebird Trail





# SNR Nest Box



# Materials and Methods



# Monitoring



Lynn Buchanan (back), with the assistance of Jill (front) and Yvonne (right), check a nest box at Shaw Nature Reserve.

Photo courtesy of Lynn Buchanan







# Data Analysis

- Logistic Exposure Model (Shaffer, 2004)
  - Generalized linear model



# Results

Species	Average Nest Success (%) (SE)
Eastern Bluebird	90.8 (0.5)
House Wren	92.1 (0.1)
Tree Swallow	92.1 (0.1)



Photo by Ken  
Thomas



Photo by Brian  
Gatwicke



Photo by Andy  
Reago



Species	Average Nest Success (%) (SE)	Average Snake Predation Rate (%) (SE)
Eastern Bluebird	90.8 (0.5)	4.6 (0.3)
House Wren	92.1 (0.1)	4.0 (0.3)
Tree Swallow	92.1 (0.1)	4.8 (0.4)



Photo by Ken  
Thomas



Photo by Brian  
Gatwicke



Photo by Andy  
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Species	Average Nest Success (%) (SE)	Average Snake Predation Rate (%) (SE)	Effect of Fire
Eastern Bluebird	90.8 (0.5)	4.6 (0.3)	No
House Wren	92.1 (0.1)	4.0 (0.3)	No
Tree Swallow	92.1 (0.1)	4.8 (0.4)	No



Photo by Ken  
Thomas



Photo by Brian  
Gatwicke



Photo by Andy  
Reago



Species	Average Nest Success (%) (SE)	Average Snake Predation Rate (%) (SE)	Effect of Fire	Annual Trend
Eastern Bluebird	90.8 (0.5)	4.6 (0.3)	No	No
House Wren	92.1 (0.1)	4.0 (0.3)	No	No
Tree Swallow	92.1 (0.1)	4.8 (0.4)	No	No



Photo by Ken  
Thomas



Photo by Brian  
Gatwicke



Photo by Andy  
Reago



# Discussion

- Nests are surviving at high rates in burned and mowed units
- Some nest characteristics could not be analyzed in this study
- Future work

Photo by Dan  
Pancamo







Photo by  
Rodney  
Campbell



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David Marvin  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/74418101@No2/33844504980>





# References

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