

Scientists supporting the petition to list the Cerulean Warbler as threatened:

John Terborgh, Ph.D., Director of the Center for Tropical Conservation at Duke University.

Frank Gill, Ph.D., Sr. Vice President, Director for Science, National Audubon Society.

Jeffrey Wells, Ph.D., Director for Bird Conservation at National Audubon Society.

Geoffrey Hill, Ph.D., Alumni Professor of Biological Sciences at Auburn University.

Jean Graber, Ph.D., Illinois Natural History Survey and University of Illinois (retired).

Hal Mahan, Ph.D., Adjunct Prof. University of North Carolina at Asheville and Warren Wilson College (retired).

What scientists say about the Cerulean Warbler:

“These [migratory songbirds] seem to be dependent on large tracts of forest interior during the breeding season, and no number of small isolated tracts can take the place of this basic requirement.”

— Chandler Robbins, Deanna Dawson, and Barbara Dowell

“I grew up in the Cincinnati area, in the heart of the Cerulean Warbler range, and when I was learning how to identify birds, Cerulean Warblers were among the most common forest birds. On recent visits back to the sites I knew well as a young man, it is now hard to find Cerulean Warblers; they occur only in the few large blocks of mature forest that have been protected as parks.”

— Geoffrey Hill, Auburn University

“Most of the large [forest] tracts that remain contain a high proportion of federal, state, and other public lands, which can be managed as a unit. Keeping these tracts in public ownership and managing them so as to avoid further fragmentation is the first step in any plan that addresses the plight of migratory songbirds.”

— Scott Robinson, University of Illinois

“It would be useful to prohibit the subsidized clearcutting of our national forests ... [regarding the tropical forests], it would be valuable if the U.S. were to demonstrate some leadership in the prudent management of natural resources.”

— John Terborgh, Duke University

“At this point, enough [Cerulean warblers] remain in enough population that a modest effort on the part of land managers, as would be dictated by threatened status, could start the process of recovery for this species. If we wait until it is critically endangered with few small populations, however, the cost of recovering the species will have multiplied enormously and with less hope of saving the bird. The time to act is now.”

— Geoffrey Hill, Auburn University