

The Cerulean Warbler Technical Group held its second large conservation workshop (i.e., “Cerulean Summit 2”) from February 13-15, 2007, in Morgantown, WV. The workshop was attended by 66 participants, primarily biologists and land managers, from the United States, Canada, Columbia, Ecuador, and Bolivia. The group provided feedback on a draft conservation action plan for Cerulean Warblers through a series of facilitated discussions, including input on global and regional population objectives, the critical limiting factors for Cerulean Warblers, critical information gaps in our knowledge, the most important management activities and other conservation actions needed to address the critical limiting factors, and lists of the key partners needed for implementation.

Specific Workshop Outcomes:

- Meeting participants accepted a global population objective of restoring Cerulean Warblers to their 1980s population level.
- Six critical limiting factors that need to be addressed in order to achieve the overall population goals for Cerulean Warblers were identified. All six of these limiting factors related to reduced amount and quality of habitat on both the breeding and non-breeding grounds.
- Some of the most important conservation actions needed to address limiting factors include:
 - For addressing loss and degradation of non-breeding habitat:
 - Maintain existing natural forest areas and restore degraded areas where possible
 - Identify & protect sites that support high densities of Cerulean Warblers
 - Continue research to determine characteristics of 'quality' habitat
 - Promote shade-grown coffee and increase amount of agro-forestry
 - To address loss and degradation of breeding habitat:
 - Develop better characterization of 'quality' habitat in relation to demographics
 - Identify & protect 'high quality' Cerulean Warbler breeding sites
 - Develop region-specific forest management guidelines (engaging forest industry and land managers in the process to assist with this)
 - Foster the reforestation of surface mines, including creating & implementing Cerulean Warbler-friendly Reclamation Plans with standard permit language for surface mine operators to use as a specific post-mining land use
- Suggestions were provided on key partners for implementing various conservation activities, but it was clear that most of these activities will not be successful undertaken by only one or two organizations. Fostering partnerships will be necessary to achieve the overall Cerulean Warbler conservation goals.
 - Several prominent issues where partnerships will be particularly important were discussed in detail:
 - A working group is forming to development standard language for Cerulean Warbler-friendly mine reclamation plans. This group will include representatives from OSM, WV DEP, FWS, academia, and the mining industry.
 - A working group is forming to explore how to engage the coffee industry in promoting the production and sale of more shade-grown coffee. This group will include representatives from NGOs in the U.S. and South America, coffee growers, distributors, sellers, and government/academic institutions involved in international conservation.