

# Thrasher Surveys In Nevada



Photo Credit: Jen Tobin



# Background

- Target Species- LeConte's (LCTH) and Bendire's Thrashers (BETH), and Loggerhead Shrikes
- Recognized by Partners in Flight as species at risk-LCTH 67% decline, BETH 90% decline since 1970



Photo Credit: Jen Tobin



Photo Credit Chrissy Kondrat-Smith

# Background Continued:

- These surveys are part of region-wide effort surveys have occurred in NV,CA, AZ, NM, UT, and Sonora Mexico
- Surveys have been conducted within the region since 2017



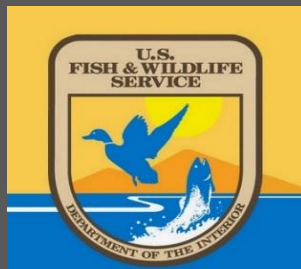


# Desert Thrasher Working Group (DTWG)

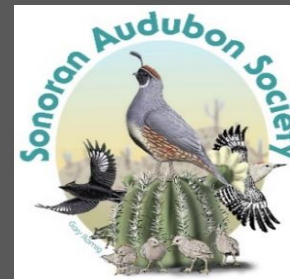
- Established in 2011
- Address long-term steep declines of thrashers
- Promote knowledge, research and monitoring
- Revitalized in 2016
- Partnership of multiple organizations



Sonoran Joint Venture  
Conservación Binacional de Aves



Point Blue  
Conservation  
Science



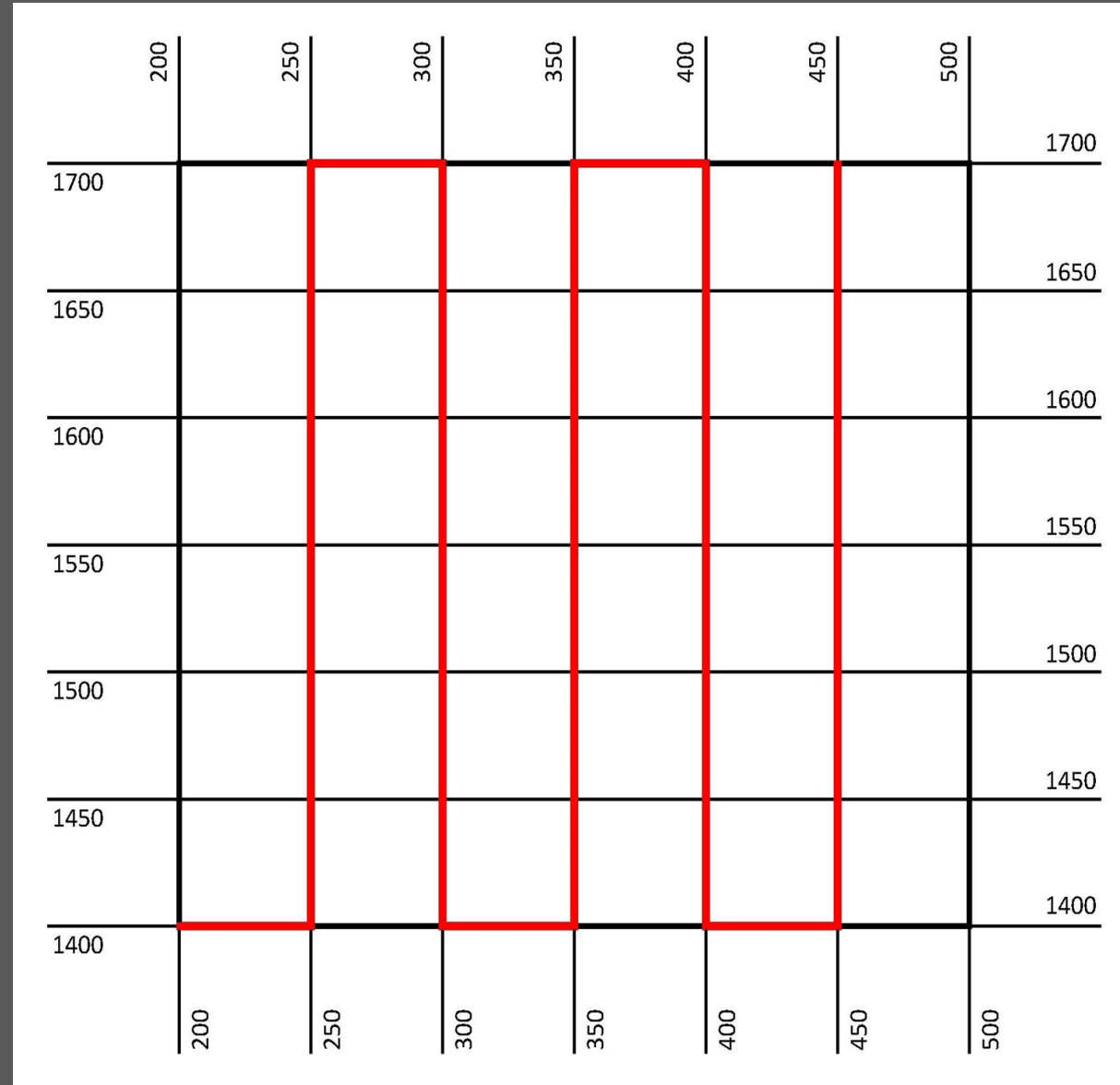
# Survey Goals and Objectives:

- Test survey methods and sampling design
- Develop habitat suitability models from field assessments to provide guidance on how to best manage these species
- Estimate density and population sizes



# Area Search Survey Method

- Stratified random sampling
- New this year used a “JT” layer
- Plot size 300m x 300m
- Surveyed 3 times per season
- Record birds seen or heard on plot during survey period (40 minutes)

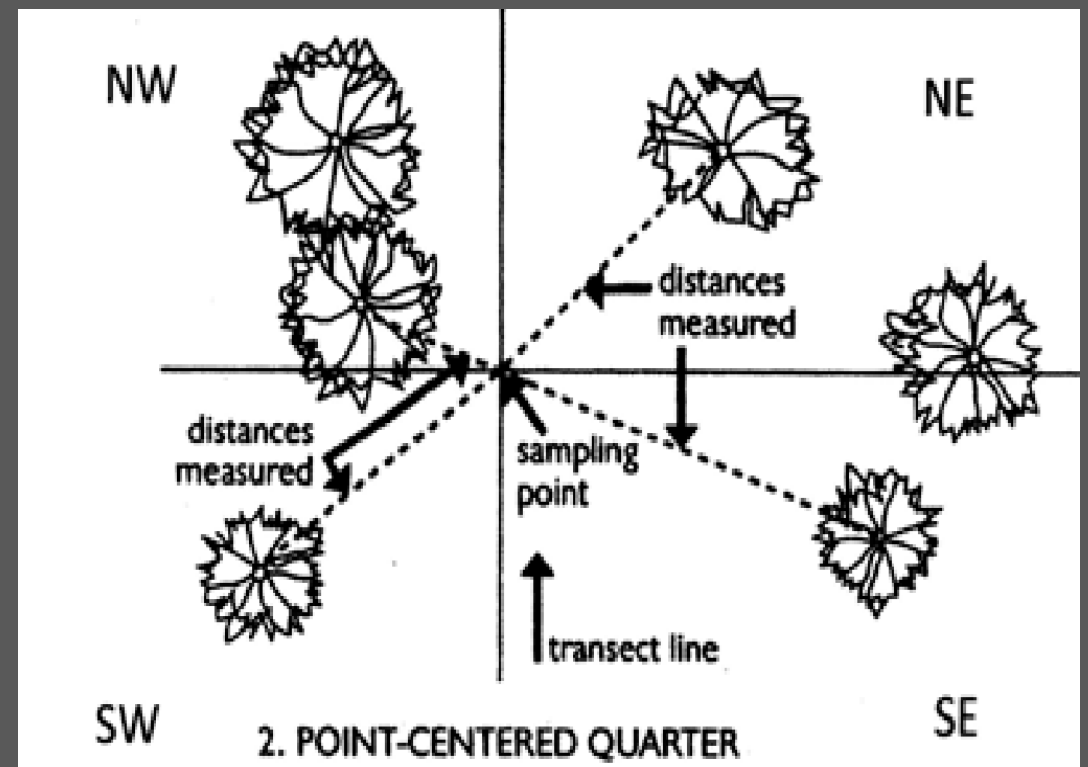


Example plot with survey route highlighted in red.



# Habitat Evaluation

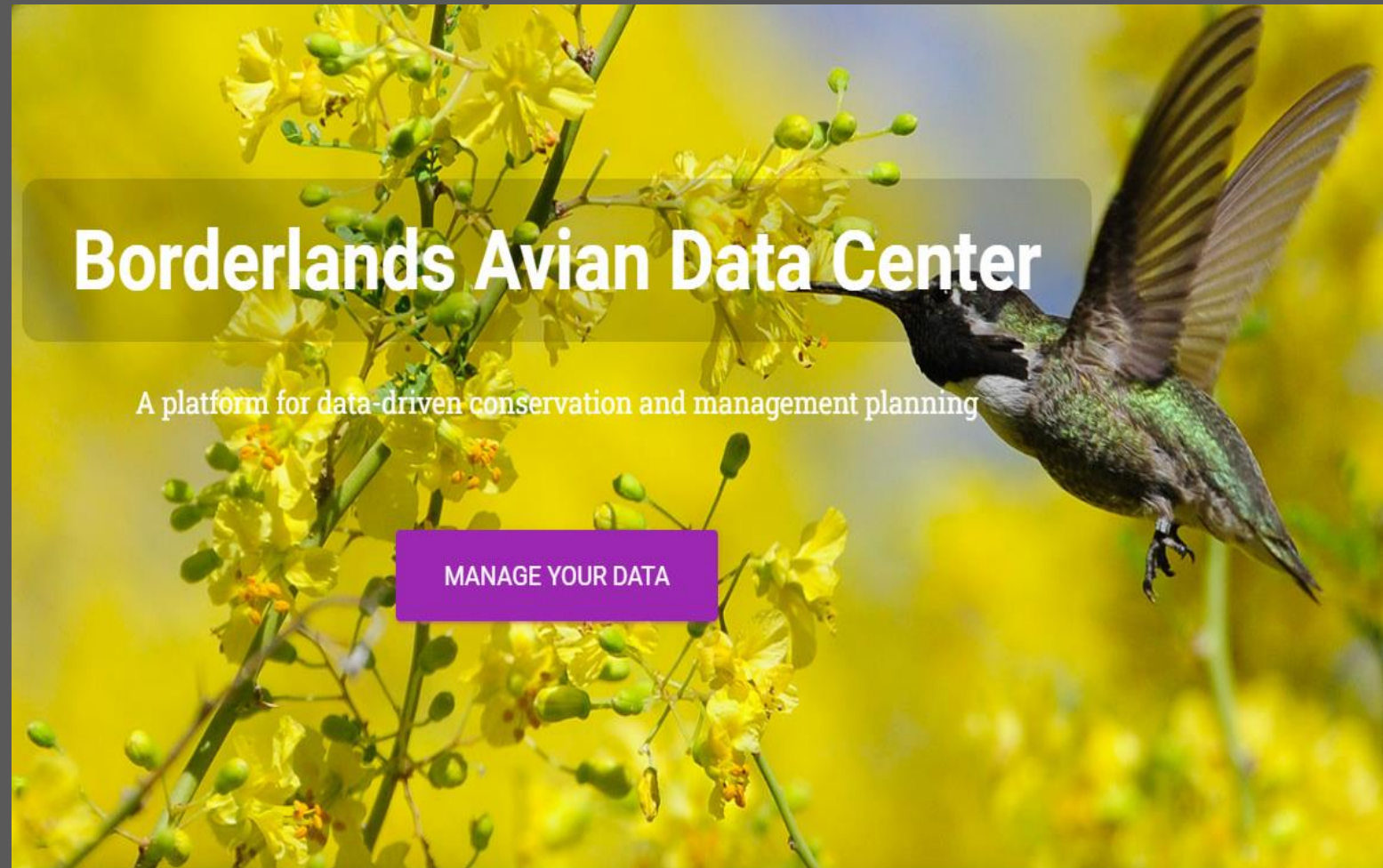
- Measurements taken at the center point of plot
- Point-Centered Quarter method



- Record density estimates of Cholla, Yucca, trees, and shrubs
- Total counts of fruit bearing shrubs and tall yuccas
- Bunchgrass and invasive weed estimate

# Where the Data Goes

- Avian Knowledge Network
- Desert Thrasher Working Group-Master dataset of thrasher locations for future modeling efforts





# Acknowledgements

- Bureau of Land Management
- Arizona Game and Fish
- Point Blue Conservation Science
- Sonoran Joint Venture
- Tule Springs fossil beds national monument
- Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
- New Mexico Game and Fish
- New Mexico State University
- Desert National Wildlife Refuge
- Awesome Field Crews!!

