

Aaron Pearse, ISAC Member

Areas of Expertise for the PRRIP: ecology and management of migratory birds; whooping cranes

Aaron Pearse is a Research Wildlife Biologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, stationed at Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center in Jamestown, North Dakota. For over 15 years, he has conducted research on migratory birds, natural resource survey design, and landscape studies of upland and wetland ecosystems in the midcontinent of North America. His work addresses the needs of natural resource managers by providing answers that support science-based management of wildlife species and ecosystems in which they depend at regional, national, and international extents. Aaron has served as the lead USGS scientist on a long-term study of whooping cranes using remote tracking devices to provide a better understanding of the ecology and management of this endangered species during migration. Through this and other projects, Aaron aims to assist conservation planners and managers in their efforts improve, prioritize, and target conservation actions. He has advised and served as a liaison to Central Flyway Technical Committees and Council, the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture, and the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture. Since 2017, he has served as a member of the International Whooping crane Recovery Team, which provides scientific guidance, review, and interpretation to co-coordinators of species recovery in the United States and Canada. Aaron received a B.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife Biology from Kansas State University, M.S. in Wildlife Resources from the University of Idaho, and Ph.D. in Wildlife and Fisheries from Mississippi State University. Aaron has been a member of the Independent Science Advisory Committee of the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program since 2022.