

photos provided by Desiree Narango



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USING INFORMED PLANT SELECTION
TO RESTORE POLLINATORS AND
SONGBIRDS IN HUMAN-DOMINATED
LANDSCAPES

webinar presented by Dr. Desiree Narango

natural
areas
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Title: Using Informed Plant Selection to Restore Pollinators and Songbirds in Human-Dominated Landscapes

Presentation Abstract: In human-dominated landscapes, such as urban areas, forestry, and agriculture, plant community composition tends to be both novel and cultivated. Restoration efforts to combat adverse effects of habitat fragmentation and degradation have resulted in widespread planting efforts. However, little attention is given to the importance of plant species identity in restoring habitat for biodiversity. This talk will describe recent studies demonstrating that particular native plant species are disproportionately important for restoring local plant-insect-bird food webs. I will also discuss opportunities where tree preferences and species interaction data can inform restoration guidelines to create high-quality wildlife habitats in shared, living-and working landscapes.



Dr. Desiree Narango
Wildlife Ecologist and Postdoctoral Researcher,
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Dr. Desiree Narango is a wildlife ecologist who studies how birds, bees, butterflies, moths, and other wildlife use novel landscapes significantly altered by people, such as urban forests, residential yards, and farmland. Her ultimate goal is to find data-driven conservation solutions for land managers to help preserve biodiversity and species interactions in a rapidly changing world. Dr. Desiree Narango is a 2020 David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellow and a postdoctoral researcher in

the Biology Department at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Her current research focuses on understanding habitat and diet relationships of insectivorous migratory birds using urban and urbanizing forests in New England.

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