

UNRAVELING THE MYSTERY OF AVIAN NAVIGATION

New research indicates that birds are listening to the landscape to find their way

Free Public Lecture • **March 31, 2011**, 7PM • USGS Conference Room A, Bldg 3 • 345 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park

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- For nearly 40 years, biologists have been unable to agree on how birds find their way over great distances during homing or migrational flights
- Do birds use their olfactory senses, the Earth's magnetic field, or low-frequency acoustic (infrasonic) signals to navigate by?
- New findings indicate that birds use infrasonic signals radiated from the land surface for navigational purposes during their journeys
- Perplexing behavior by birds observed during experimental releases can be readily explained by the influences of topography and atmospheric variations on the propagation of infrasound

