



Donna Matrazzo
The Writing Works

19300 NW Sauvie Island Rd.
Portland, OR 97231
(503) 621-3049
matrazzo@msn.com
www.donnamatrazzo.com

**The Audubon Center at Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary
Odyssey Productions, Inc.**

**"A Spectacle of Birds:
The Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary"**

Shooting Script

"A Spectacle of Birds: The Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary"

Shooting Script

* indicates existing footage

Fade in:

A sequence of five individual birds, taking off or in flight from the far north, each superimposed over a section of map. Note that the birds chosen, and the correlating locations/narration, will ultimately be determined by the footage that we are able to get. [See Paul Bauer's list at the end of the script for additional potential birds.] The sequence of birds and narration might go:

1. *A green-winged teal taking off or in flight. [AL]
Superimpose: The upper northwest section of our artful Mississippi Flyway map.

MUSIC: Here, and throughout the production, a custom sound track will embellish the scenes

Narrator: (voiceover)

A green-winged teal lifts off
from the tundra of the north
Alaskan arctic.

2. * A bald eagle takes off from a branch of an evergreen tree. [VOY5B/5:59]
Superimpose: The Northwest Territories area of our artful Mississippi Flyway map.

A bald eagle leaves from a
boreal forest in the
Northwest Territories.

3. A snow goose taking off or in flight.

Superimpose: The Hudson Bay section of our artful Mississippi Flyway map.

A snow goose takes off from
the shores of Nunavit, north
of Hudson Bay.

4. A ruby-crowned kinglet taking off or in flight.

Superimpose: The Great Lakes section of our artful Mississippi Flyway map.

A ruby-crowned kinglet flies
south from a forest along the
Great Lakes.

5. A semipalmated sandpiper taking off or in flight.

Superimpose: The Baffin Island section of our artful Mississippi Flyway map.

A semipalmated sandpiper
departs from a bay on Baffin
Island north of Quebec.

dissolve to:

A fast-paced sequence of honking, quacking, trilling flocks of birds in flight.

For example:

6. * The camera follows a flock of Canada geese, flying overhead. [RIV 2/?]

SFX: Loud multitudinous honking sound of

h-ronk and *h-lenk*

7. * A flock of white pelicans, soaring. [RIV1/ 3:56]

MUSIC UP and UNDER

8. A flock of sandhill cranes in flight.

SFX: Loud multitudinous trilling

9. A flock of trumpeter swans in flight.

SFX: Loud multitudinous nasal honking
sound of *hurp* and *hur-di-di*

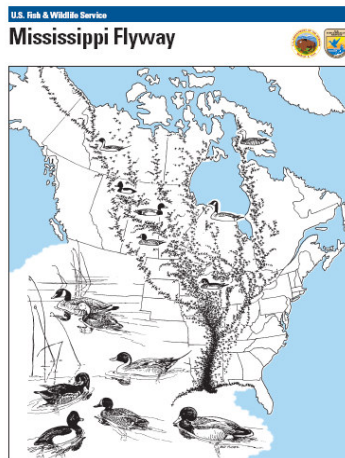
10. A flock of ducks in flight.

SFX: Loud multitudinous quacking

11. From all the footage, the shot looking skyward that shows the greatest numbers of birds flying overhead.

It's migration time on the
Mississippi Flyway, where
astounding numbers of birds
converge in a unique spot:

12. Over Scene 11, superimpose the complete artful map of the Mississippi Flyway (based on this one from the USFWS) completing the sections shown in Scenes 1 through 5, and depicting the convergence of the flyway corridors at the area of Riverlands.



... the confluence of the
Missouri and Mississippi
rivers.

13. Add a Riverlands sign or logo at the spot of the flyway's convergence.

Title: "A Spectacle of Birds:

The Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary."

... to produce a spectacle of
birds ... at the Riverlands
Migratory Bird Sanctuary.

dissolve to:

A montage of fabulous bird scenes that represent the flyway spectacle—in sheer numbers, in unique-looking species, in a mix of species in one scene, and in beautiful and engaging shots of common birds. For example:

14. A flock of snow geese taking off and filling the screen.

SFX: Chorus of single honks and varied
pitches of *whouk* and *heenk*

Many millions of birds
travel the Mississippi
Flyway during spring and
fall migration...

... including more than a
million and a half geese ...

15. * Half a dozen white pelicans come in for a landing, their feet stretched out, their wings flapping. [RIV1/4:53]

30,000 pelicans ...

16. * Goldeneye duck with a host of ducklings. [VOY4B/:00:05]

and five million ducks.

[Note: Here, and throughout, our birding experts can give us the most accurate bird count numbers before we record narration.]

17. *A "cloud" of flying birds, with grasses in the foreground. [RIV2/00:15]

Nearly 60% of all North
America bird species
migrate along its corridor.

18. *A great mix of birds in shallow water—egrets, great blue herons, Canada geese, and different duck species. [RIV2/2:00?]

The rivers, lakes, wetlands
and shorelines of the
Mississippi Flyway are ideal
for birds to rest, feed...

19. * A bald eagle in a nest with two fledglings. [VOY4A/4:23]

... and for some, to stay and
nest.

20. One or more enormous Vs of Canada geese fill the sky overhead.

It's one of the greatest
flyways on earth ... and part
of the longest migration
route in the western
hemisphere ...

21. Perhaps superimpose a map of the complete North and South America migration route.

... stretching from the Arctic
coast of Alaska – to
Argentina in South America.

22. *An egret is silhouetted in gorgeous evening light as it plods along, sticks its whole head in the water and gets a fish. [RIV3/11:25]

And Riverlands Migratory
Bird Sanctuary is at the
center of it all.

MUSIC UP AND UNDER

*This is page 7 of 28 pages.
If you would like to see the complete script, contact me at matrazzo@msn.com*
