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[Endangered and Drained in Polk](#)

[Avon Park AFR Researcher To Lead State Birding Trail](#)

Thursday, [January 29, 2015](#) at 3:41 by [Tom Palmer](#)

Dr. Greg Schrott, who in recent years has been a wildlife researcher involved in studying the Florida grasshopper sparrow and other species, has been named Florida's Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail coordinator at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Schrott grew up in northern Virginia and worked and studied in Virginia, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas and California before coming to Florida to work for Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid, which aids in wildlife research at the Avon Park Air Force Range.

In 2007, he was hired by the Archbold Biological Station to be the manager of its long-term project monitoring and studying Florida Scrub-jays, Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, and Florida Grasshopper Sparrows on the Avon Park Air Force Range in Highlands and Polk counties. This position gave him a great introduction to the wildlife, ecosystems and conservation community of Florida. It also led to his serving as chairman of the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow Working Group from 2008 – 2012, and a term on the board of directors of the Florida Ornithological Society from 2011 – 2014.

In the meantime, he has spent a lot of his time exploring the wonders of Florida and its birding spots over the years, which FWC officials say make him a perfect fit for the coordinator job.