

Kelley Coleman At-Large Member, EMAS Board of Directors

Kelley was at UNCA studying Environmental Studies and took Andrew Laughlin's Avian Ecology course her junior year. This was her first experience birding and gaining an appreciation for these animals. The next year she designed her senior project about avian diversity and abundance along different Asheville Greenways that were at different levels of development. She found that the completed and functional greenway (Reed Creek Greenway) had a more diverse and more abundant avian community. This project was funded through UNCA's McCullough Fellowship and supported by her partner organization, Green Opportunities.

She joined forces with two other UNCA students to get the bird club kicked off and part of the National Audubon Society's college campus presence. This introduced Kelley to EMAS and collaborate with the EMAS team. Then after graduation, she felt the calling to reconnect with EMAS and become part of their team. She happily leads the Shade-grown coffee initiative and has recently joined the board. She's most excited to keep her bird ID skills up and become more involved with EMAS.

Here's Kelley at an event talking to folks about shade-grown coffee and how it benefits birds.

