

Data Collection and Submission

Data may be collected using the attached tally sheet or via eBird. Your compilers are encouraging the use of eBird to collect CBC data.

Why?

1. Using eBird allows you to more accurately track and summarize your effort (time walking, time driving, and distances for both);
2. You don't need the tally sheet;
3. Data reported at finer scale through eBird have more scientific potential than through the gross scale of amalgamated CBC data;
4. Rarities can be documented through comments and photos attached to checklists;
5. You can finalize and submit your data in just a few minutes, making the compilers happy.

Why not?

1. You prefer the paper tally sheet to a phone. No problem, we are happy to take your data on the tally sheets, too!
2. eBird doesn't handle subspecies well, but there is a work around (see below).

Using the Tally Sheet

The first page lists the most seen birds on the Moscow-Pullman Christmas Bird Count in taxonomic order. The second page lists less seen species and very rare species. If you observe a species highlighted in **bold**, you will need to supply documentation for that sighting using the attached CBC Rare Bird Report. On the tally sheet, use space to the right of each species name to tally quantities as you bird.

1. Total the number of sightings for each species and record that in the total column of the tally sheet.
2. Record the number of hours, to the nearest quarter hour, segregated by driving, walking, or feeder watching. In addition, for the driving and walking categories separately, record the distance, to the nearest tenth of a mile. Remember to only record one-way distances if you backtrack. Place this data in the fields at the top of the tally sheet.

Submission:

3. Use your cell phone to take a photo of each side of the tally sheet and text or email those photos to the compilers (ID: kas.birder@gmail.com; 208.301.2324; WA: casey.lowder@me.com; 704.438.1533). You may also scan and email the tally sheet.

OR

4. Hand your completed tally sheet to your compiler at the social.

Using eBird

Basic steps

1. If you aren't already using the eBird Mobile App, [download eBird](#) to your phone and review [eBird essentials](#) for creating checklists.

2. On CBC day, make eBird checklists on your phone to record the number of each species at each location and automatically record time and distance (see section 2 of *How does it work?* for more detail).
3. Combine all of your CBC day checklists into a single list using [eBird's Trip Report feature](#) (see section 3 of *How does it work?* for more detail).
4. Share your Trip Report with the CBC compiler.

How does it work?

1. If you don't already have eBird, create a free account and download the eBird app on your phone. [Follow this link for basic use of eBird for creating checklist.](#)
2. Create eBird checklists to record the number of species you observe throughout the day. Use the standard eBird suggestions of starting a new list when:
 - a. Changing birding locations
 - b. Changing major habitat types
 - c. Change the type of birding you're doing (i.e., go from stationary to traveling or vice versa)
 - d. You have been stationary for more than an hour (no longer than 3 hours)
 - e. Have been traveling for more than a mile (no longer than 5 miles)
 - f. If you're a feeder watcher, then start a new checklist each time you sit down to watch your feeder.
 - g. Remember to only record one-way distances! In eBird you can stop the track without stopping the time; just remember to do so when you start your backtrack.
3. At the end of the day, create a Trip Report in eBird. The Trip Report will combine all your checklists into a single report with species totals (the replacement for the paper field sheet).
 - a. On your phone or computer, navigate to the eBird website (not the app, this functionality is only available through the web version).
 - b. Click "My eBird"
 - c. Click "Manage"
 - d. Click "Trip Reports"
 - e. Click "Create Trip Report"
 - f. Enter a name for your Trip Report (use "2024 Moscow Pullman CBC YOUR NAME),
 - g. Set start and end date (Dec 14 for 2024 CBC)
 - h. Set visibility (select public or sharable by link)
 - i. Click "Create." You'll get a list of all the checklists for the count day.
 - j. If needed, uncheck any checklists that weren't part of your CBC sector (for example, you may have ventured into some else's sector to see a rarity).
 - k. Click "Save and View Trip Report." The Report will show all species and the counts for each.
4. Share the Trip Report with the CBC compiler (this is the last required step, see optional steps below for adding your effort totals to subspecies).
 - a. You can share the Trip Report URL with kas.birder@gmail.com for Idaho lists or casey.lowder@me.com for Washington lists using the "share" option in eBird. You may also email or text the compilers the Trip Report URL, which should look like <https://ebird.org/tripreport/#####>. Kas: 208.301.2324. Casey: 704.438.1533.

5. **Optional but helpful and extremely appreciated.**

The Trip Report does not output effort data and subspecies data.

Although an optional step for participants, these data can be relatively easily summarized and your compilers would appreciate you doing so.

- a. In the Trip Report view, click on checklists.
- b. Click on the top (latest) checklist. Record the time (all checklists) and distance (unless stationery). Also record any subspecies data.
- c. Click “older” to advance to the next list and record time and distance and subspecies and quantities.
- d. Click “older” and repeat until you have cycled through your day. Add up the times and distances. Add up the quantities for each subspecies.
- e. Return to the Trip Report and click “edit.” Add your walking distance and time and driving distance and time, as well as a breakdown of subspecies and quantities, as a comment.

Example for comments section:

Driving: 4.75 hours, 28.3 miles

Walking: 2.25 hours, 1.8 miles

Dark-eyed Juncos. 148 total. 121 Dark-eyed. 23 Oregon. 3 Slate. 1 cismontanus.

Northern Flicker. 16 total. 12 NOFL. 3 Red-shafted. 1 Intergrade.