



Audubon Science Office
545 Almshouse Road
Ivyland, PA 18974
Tel: 215-355-9588 ext.10
Fax: 215-355-2353
www.audubon.org/bird/cbc
cbcadmin@audubon.org

Greetings CBC Compiler,

We're pleased to welcome you to the 110th Christmas Bird Count. Again this season you'll find improvements in the database and the data entry application—a "Primary Compiler" field that will allow us to store the names of primary compilers associated with each count every season, a downloadable blank count-specific field form, the ability for you to submit payments for multiple counts in one charge, and the ability to make supplemental payments. Please do check the "Primary Compiler" field after you've logged into your CBC to make sure that the correct name and email address are there.

Again we extend our heart-felt thanks to you for all your hard work to make the CBC a success—each and every compiler plays a crucial role in the overall Christmas Bird Count effort. The improvements to the data entry application this season are in large part things you have requested, and we hope you find them useful.

Login Procedure

The CBC website remains at <http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc>. To login, click on "**Data Entry/Review**" on the left hand side of the CBC web page or the green "Compilers: Enter Your Count Data Here!" octagon on the right; either one will take you to the "Citizen Science Portal" page. Under "**Registered User Login**", provide your username and password.

Your "**Username**" remains the same as last season—either your full email address or whatever you created. Unless you've changed your "**Password**", it is your count code in capital letters. Otherwise it is whatever you created for yourself. If you forget your password, there's a "**forgot password**" link on the login box. Follow the instructions there, and your password will be sent to you in a secure email. Please make sure your email system is set up to receive emails from cbcadmin@audubon.org, otherwise they may be blocked as spam. Please also note that *both "username" and "password" are case sensitive.*

* Please DO NOT register or re-register yourself. The "New Registration" is for new users only, and you are already an active compiler in the system. If you have any problems logging in, please contact cbcadmin@audubon.org as soon as possible.

If necessary, please update your current contact information in the "**My Account**" section after you've logged in—it is the responsibility of the compiler to keep information current.

Post your Count Date

The first step in the process is to post your count date; we will email all compilers once the preparations for the 110th CBC are completed and the data entry application is open. Posting your count date does two things – it will make your circle appear in the "Get Involved" part of the web site so that participants and web visitors can see when your count will be conducted, and it will set up your circle for data entry to start on Dec 14. Look for an email from us announcing when this is available.

Pre-Registration

Once again the pre-registration feature is available for CBC participants. We shall email you as soon as this becomes available. As a compiler, you will have the choice of three options for pre-registration of your participants. These are all listed and described in the "Post the Count Date" section. Posting the actual date of your count will automatically list your count on the public website. *If you do not post your date in advance, your circle will not appear in the "Search for CBC Circles Near You" list.* For more information consult the Data Entry Manual on the compiler's web page at <http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/compiler.html>

CBC Count Period

As always, this year's CBC period runs from December 14 through January 5.

The complete Compiler's Manual is online!

The Compiler's Manual contains complete information on how to prepare for and conduct a count, as well as the **fee policy** and protocols for collecting and recording data. In addition, there is a Data Entry manual for reference on how to enter data online. There are also full data entry instructions in the "help" section of the data entry pages. The Compiler's and Data Entry Manuals are available on the "**Compiler's Page**" of the CBC website at <http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/compiler.html> and requires Adobe Reader (free) in order to view and print.

The Deadline for Data Entry and Remittance to the Science Office will be 15 February 2010.

Rare Bird Documentations

Please remember that all Rare Bird Documentation forms and photos should be sent directly to your Regional Editor, either by email or regular mail. The **list of CBC Regional Editors**, plus their addresses and emails, is in the Compiler's Page of the CBC website. *Please also remember that uploading photos to the CBC website for use in the Online Photo Gallery is not a substitute for getting the photos to your Regional Editor.* Please only upload photos after you've sent them directly to the Regional Editor for review.

We fully understand that you may not be able to complete online data entry. If you encounter difficulties, please contact us at cbcadmin@audubon.org for help. If we are unable to help you enter your data, we will handle your data entry for you.

Budget Summary for 109th CBC

We thank you for your work in making the CBC the continued success that it is. Below is an overview budget from the 109th season of this important Citizen Science program:

REVENUE		EXPENSES
Fees & Subscriptions	\$200,776	
Contributed Revenue	\$ 2,000	
Audubon financial support	\$ 49,720	
Staff		\$162,465
<i>American Birds</i>		\$ 50,735
<i>Other expenses</i>		\$ 39,296
TOTAL	\$252,496	\$252,496

In addition to the essential income that participant fees bring to the CBC, you will see that Audubon continues to invest significantly in the program using other funds. We continue to develop the Internet-based data entry system and database management system.

In addition to the above work, Audubon invests separately in the analysis of these data. Dan Niven, Senior Scientist for Bird Conservation, and Greg Butcher, Audubon's Director of Bird Conservation, continue their work analyzing past CBC data, which provides information critical to Audubon's State of the Birds reports, including Common Bird in Decline, released in spring of 2007, and Audubon's 2007 WatchList published in the 107th CBC issue of *American Birds*. Most recently, and as reported in your 109th CBC issue of *American Birds*, Audubon scientists have released the report "Birds and Climate Change: Ecological Disruption in Motion" (found at <http://www.audubon.org/news/pressroom/bacc/pdfs/Birds%20and%20Climate%20Report.pdf>). As always, we greatly encourage you to donate funds to build the future of the Christmas Bird Count as an important tool for bird conservation.

Thanks very much, and have a wonderful Christmas Bird Count season. Good birding!



Geoff LeBaron /Christmas Bird Count Director
National Audubon Society