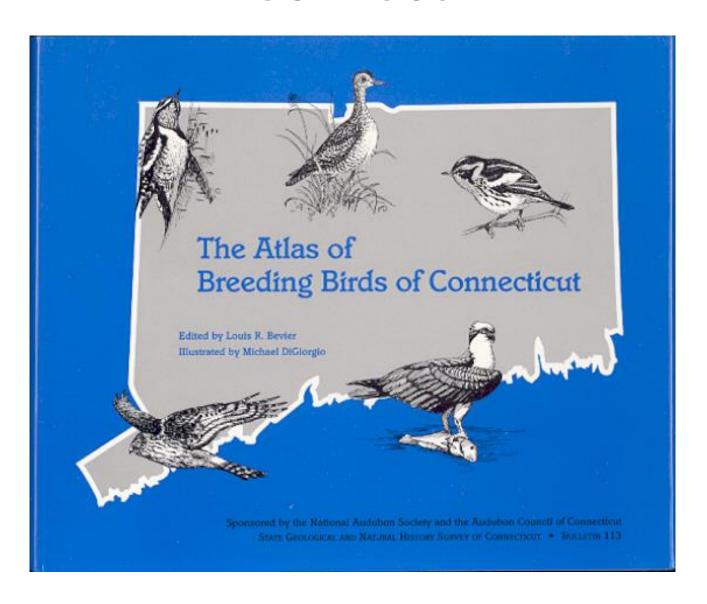


1982-1986





Project goals

- Describe breeding bird distribution and abundance
- Document changes since the last atlas
- Describe wintering distributions
- Stopover habitat use (we hope)
- Understand where species occur on the landscape
- Develop an interactive web site for updating and data retrieval



Major funding













Connecticut
Ornithological
Association





... plus may other contributions ...

Birders make atlases possible



Your time and miles count as funding match

Please fill out a volunteer effort form every time you go out and collect atlas data

http://ctbirdatlas.com/PDF/BBA-Volunteer-Form.pdf

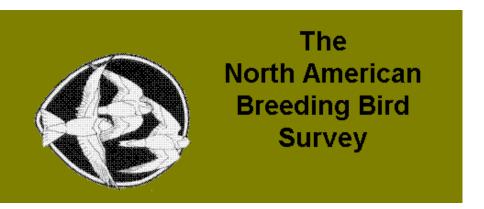
ctbirdatlas.org

CONNECTICUT BIRD ATLAS



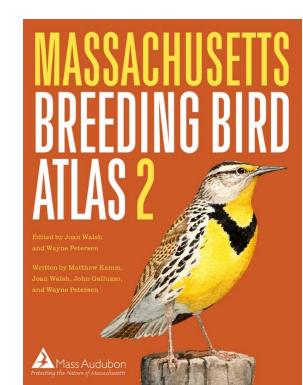
PROTECTING THE STATE'S BIRDS REQUIRES THAT WE KNOW WHERE THEY ARE.

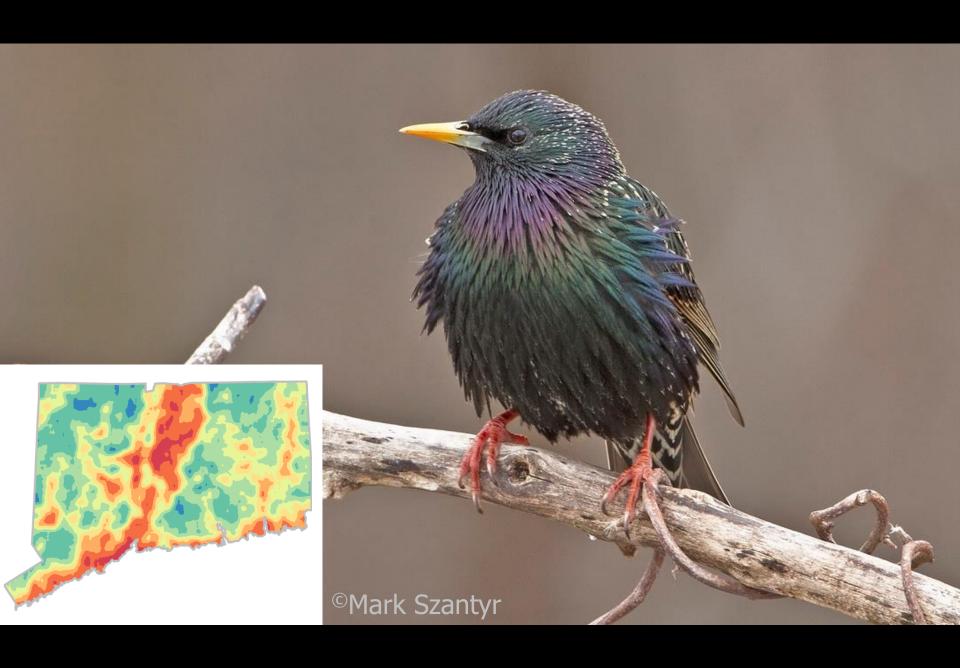
YEAR 1: Make initial predictions from existing data ...

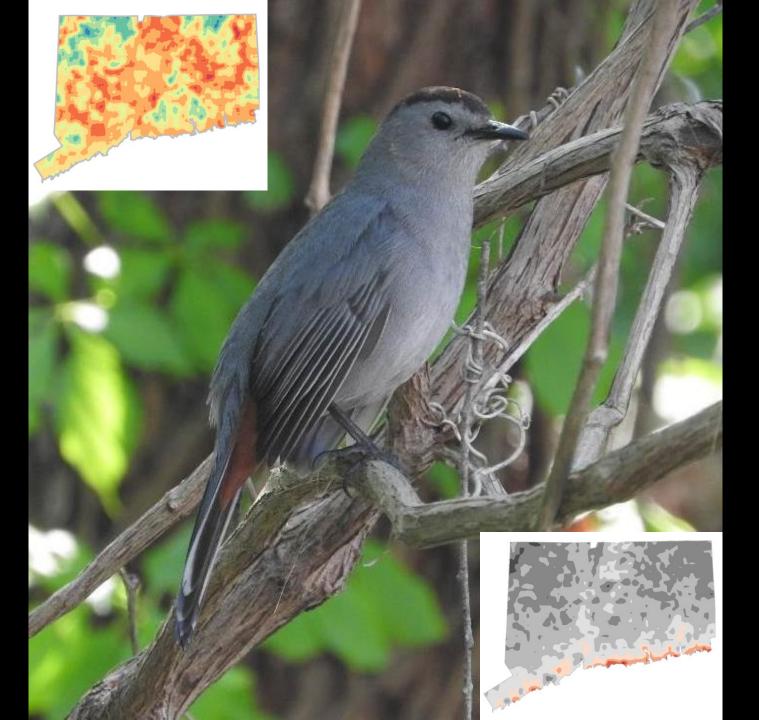




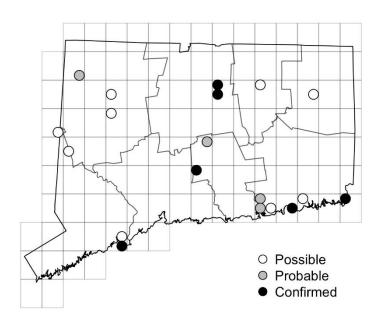
eBird

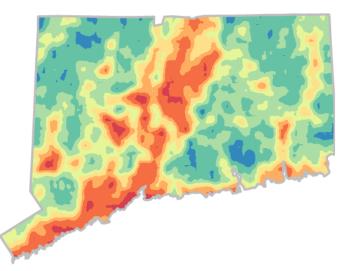






TAKE THE QUIZ







**only talk with prizes!!

2018-2020: Collect new atlas data

- 1. traditional citizen science block work
- 2. point counts to estimate abundance
- 3. winter surveys
- 4. migration surveys



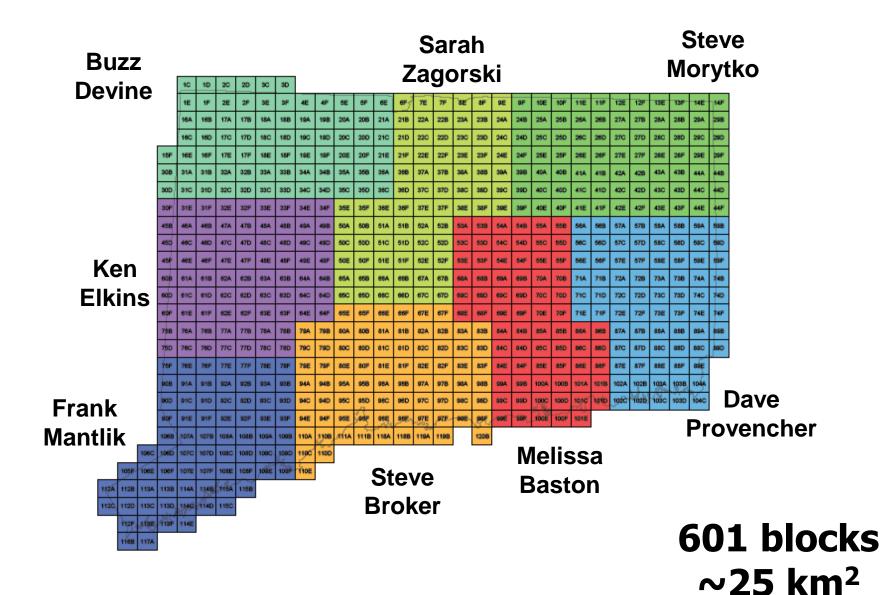
Analysis to test/refine predictions

- > test models
- > upgrade predictions
- > compare to 1980s atlas
- > identify priority areas for conservation
- post data on-line

How can birders help?



Volunteer to survey a block



Breeding surveys

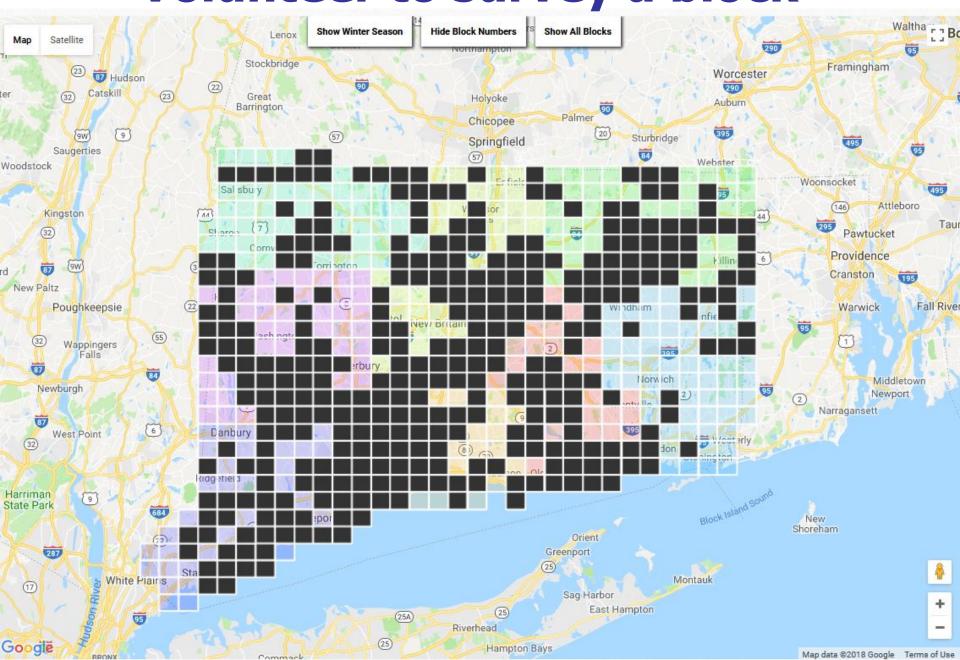
- Spend up to 20 hours birding over 3 years
- Visit all habitats in a block
- List all species seen

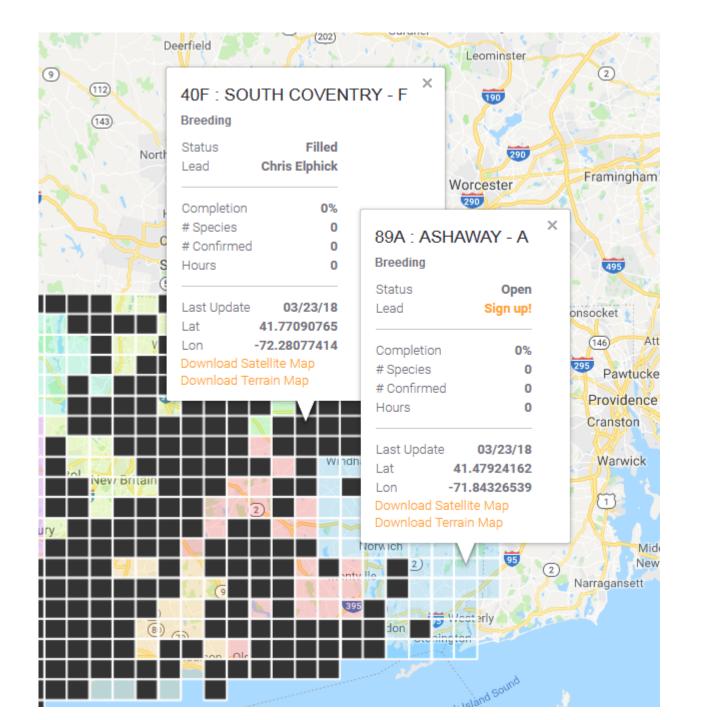
Record evidence of breeding using

standard codes



Volunteer to survey a block





What if "my" block is taken!?



What if "my" block is taken!?

- Collect data anyway!
- Coordinate with assigned birder

Pick another block



What if I don't have time to do a block?

- Collect data anyway!
- Submit records whenever you go birding
- Submit incidental records from your yard

Submit incidental records any time you

confirm breeding*

1 species total

1 Common Raven

Flying low over the highway carrying a stick.

Breeding Code

CN Carrying Nesting Material (Confirmed)



What if I don't think I'm a good enough birder?

Can you identify these species ...



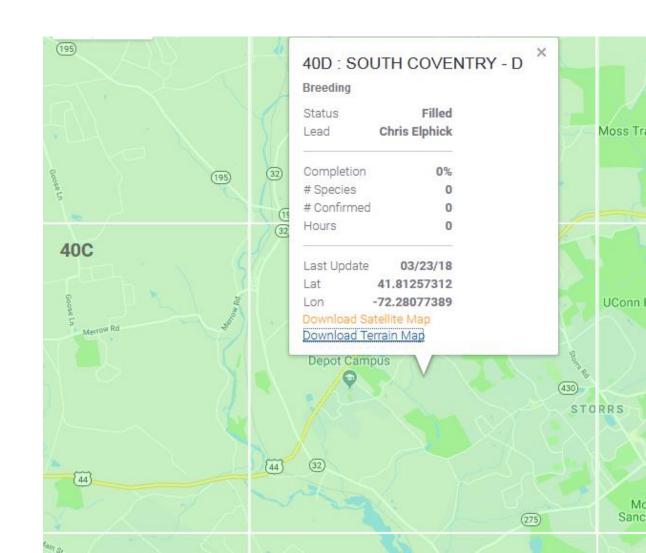
When should I start?

Now, but cautiously ...

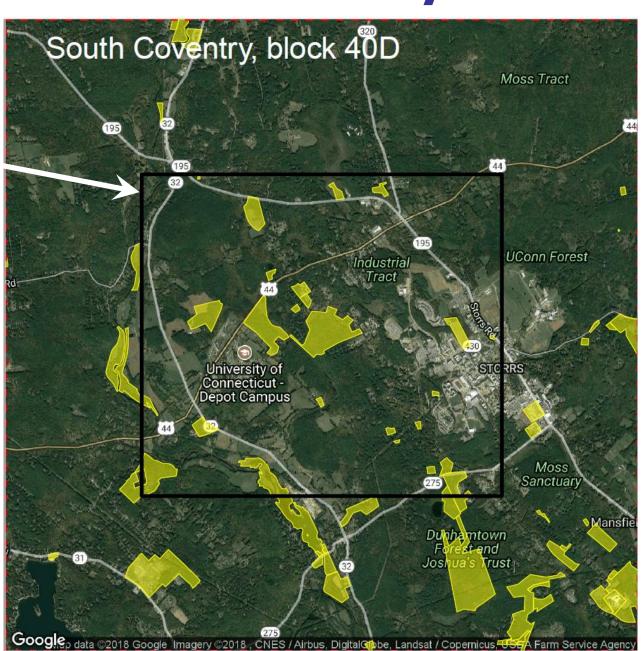


- Safe date info on web site
- 20 hours: mid-May mid-Aug

Download block maps

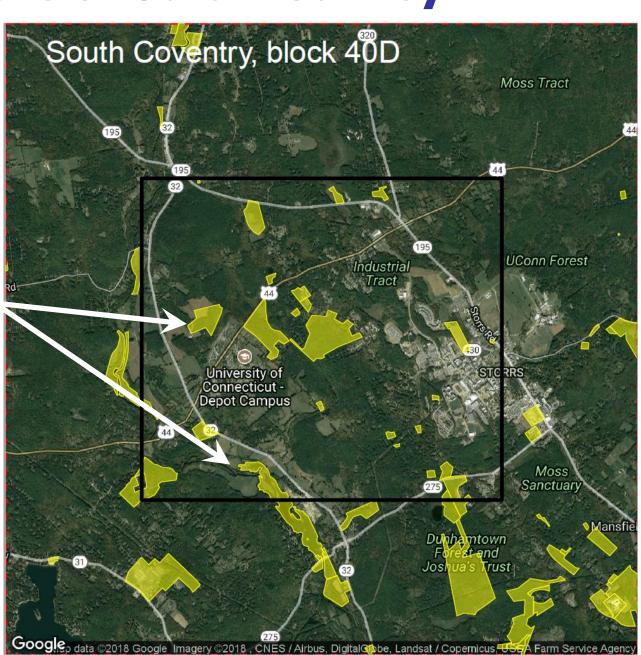


Block boundary



Block boundary

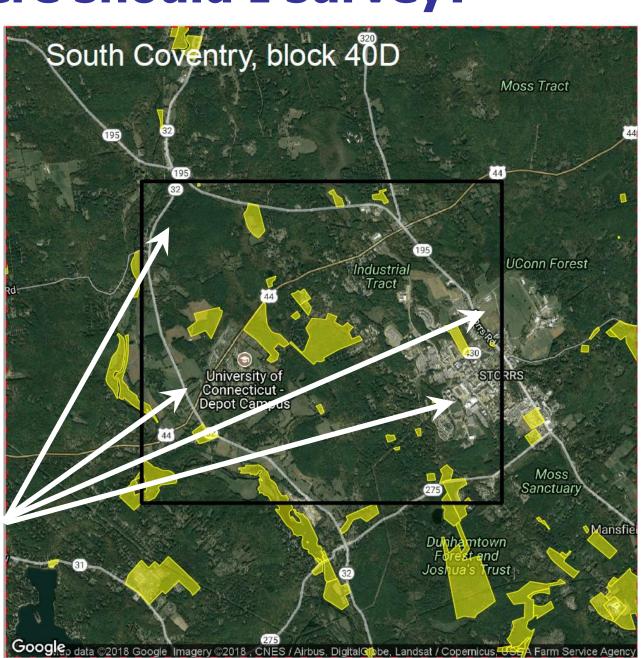
Public land



Block boundary

Public land

Different habitats

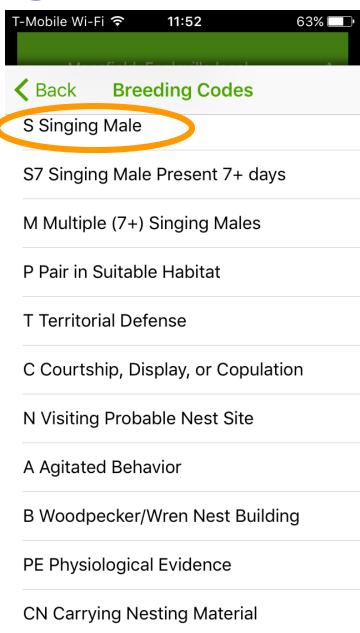


Do I have to find nests?



Many types of breeding evidence

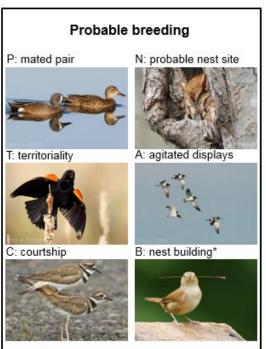


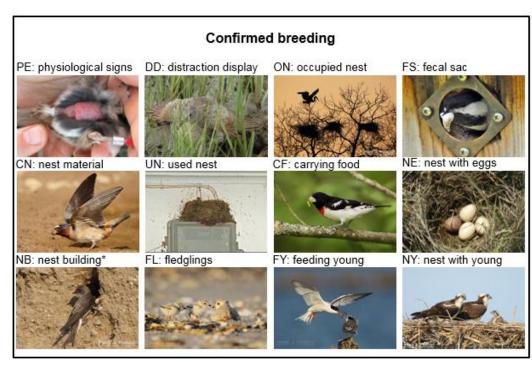


Many types of breeding evidence



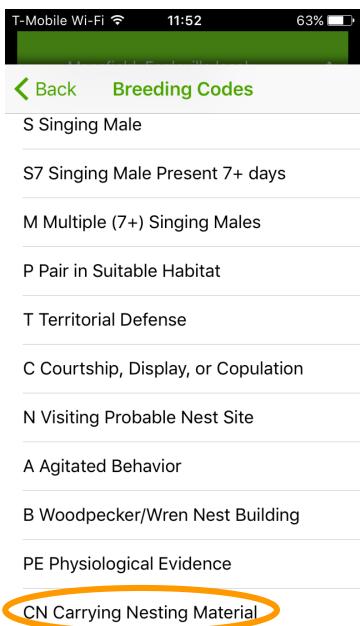






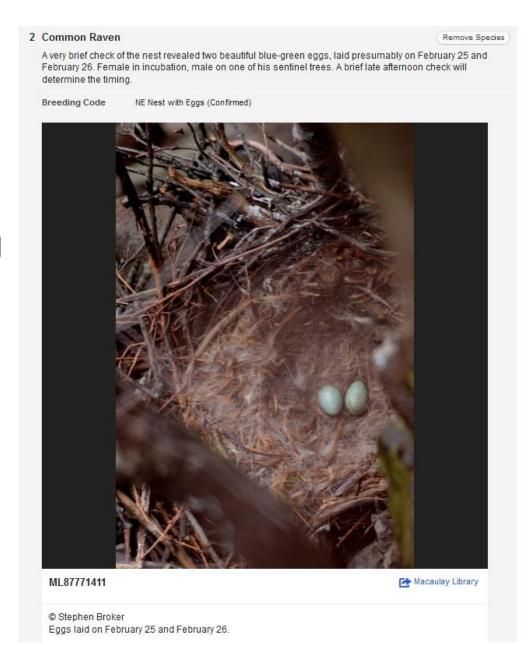
Many ways to confirm breeding





What data should I submit now?

- Confirmed breeding
- Probable breeding in secretive species
- Any breeding evidence for rare breeders



How should I submit data?

CONNECTICUT BIRD ATLAS - BREEDING FIELD CARD

Use this form to report species detected during block surveys. IMPORTANT: Report only species found within the block boundaries. List a code for all species detected. Use a separate card for each visit.

Observer(s):			
		Email:	
Block: Site (if v	isiting just part of block):		
Date:	Start time:	End time:	
Circle to confirm wheth	er all species detected are mar	ked below: YES NO	

For other data forms and details on data entry, go to: www.ctbirdatlas.org Please report all of the time spent on the project and your mileage on the Volunteer Form Please report locations of any nests you find on the Nest Record Form

Breeding Codes:

X - seen or heard but not in suitable nesting habitat; no evidence of breeding

H - seen in suitable habitat within safe dates, but no other indication of breeding

S - singing in suitable habitat within safe dates

M - multiple (7+) singing males in suitable habitat

P - pair in suitable habitat during breeding season T - song or other evidence of territory establishment on

at least two days, a week or more apart C - courtship behavior or copulation

N - bird visiting probable nest site A - agitated behavior or anxiety calls from adults suggesting probable nest or young nearby

B - nest building by wrens or woodpeckers

PE - physiological evidence (brood patch, etc.)

CN - carrying nest material (do not use for wrens)

NB - nest building (do not use for wrens and woodpeckers)

DD - distraction display or injury feigning

UN - used nest or eggshells; careful confirmation of species necessary

FL - recently fledged young or downy young of galliforms, shorebirds or waterfowl; young should be incapable of sustained flight and dependent on adults for food and/or protection

ON - adults entering or leaving nest site, indicating occupied nest (use for cavity nesters only when bird enters hole and stays inside, when a pair exchange places while incubating, or when a bird leaves after being inside for some time)

CF - adult carrying food for young (do not use for raptors, corvids, kingfishers, terns; take care near block boundaries)

FY - adult feeding young away from the nest

FS - adult carrying fecal sac

NE - nest with eggs or adult sitting on nest

NY - nest with young

Species	Code	Species	Code	Species	Code
Canada Goose		Wild Turkey		Glossy Ibis	
Mute Swan		Pied-billed Grebe*		Turkey Vulture	
Wood Duck		Double-crested Cormorant		Black Vulture	
Gadwall		American Bittern*		Osprey	
American Black Duck		Least Bittern*		Bald Eagle	
Mallard		Great Blue Heron		Mississippi Kite*	
Blue-winged Teal*		Great Egret		Northern Harrier*	
Green-winged Teal*		Snowy Egret		Sharp-shinned Hawk*	
Common Eider*		Little Blue Heron		Cooper's Hawk	
Hooded Merganser		Tricolored Heron*		Northern Goshawk*	
Common Merganser		Cattle Egret*		Red-shouldered Hawk	
Red-breasted Merganser*		Green Heron		Broad-winged Hawk	
Ring-necked Pheasant		Black-crowned N-Heron		Red-tailed Hawk	
Ruffed Grouse		Yellow-crowned N-Heron*		American Kestrel	

^{*}Please submit a Rare Reports Form (see web site) for these species or any species not listed

Mail: Connecticut Bird Atlas, c/o Chris Elphick, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut, 75 North Eagleville Road, Unit 3043, Storrs, CT 06269-3043 Email (scans): atbirdatlasdata@gmail.com (subject: CT Bird Atlas Field Card)

CONNECTICUT BIRD ATLAS - INCIDENTAL OBSERVATION FORM

Email:

Connecticut Bird Atlas, c/o Chris Elphick, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology,

Use this form to report breeding species detected incidentally (i.e., when not surveying an assigned block). Incidental records are especially valuable if they confirm breeding for a species, or involve unusual or difficult to find species.

Date (m/d/y)	Latitude/Longitude (decimal degrees)*	Block ID	Species	Breeding Code	Notes
iii.d.y)	(decimal degrees)	- 10		Couc	

*Instructions for getting this information from Google Maps are on the atlas web site. Alternatively, mark the location on a paper map and submit with this form.

Breeding Codes:

Send to:

X - seen or heard but not in suitable nesting habitat; no evidence of breeding

H - seen in suitable habitat within safe dates, but no other indication of breeding noted

S - singing in suitable habitat within safe dates

M - multiple (7+) singing males in suitable habitat

P - pair in suitable habitat during breeding season T - song or other evidence of territory establishment

on at least two days, a week or more apart

C - courtship behavior or copulation

N - bird visiting probable nest site

A - agitated behavior or anxiety calls from adults suggesting probable nest or young nearby B - nest building by wrens or woodpeckers

PE - physiological evidence (brood patch, etc.) CN - carrying nest material (do not use for wrens) NB - nest building (do not use for wrens and woodpeckers)

DD - distraction display or injury feigning

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FL - recently fledged young or downy young of galliforms, shorebirds or waterfowl; young should be incapable of sustained flight and dependent on adults for food and/or protection

ON - adults entering or leaving nest site, indicating occupied nest (use for cavity nesters only when bird enters hole and stays inside, when a pair exchange places while incubating, or when a bird leaves after being inside for some time)

CF - adult carrying food for young (do not use for raptors, corvids, kingfishers, terns; take care near block boundaries)

FY - adult feeding young away from the nest

FS - adult carrying fecal sac

NE - Nest with eggs or adult sitting on nest

NY - Nest with young

How should I submit data?

CONNECTICUT BIRD ATLAS - BREEDING FIELD CARD

Use this form to report species detected during block surveys. IMPORTANT: Report only species found within the block boundaries. List a code for all species detected. Use a separate card for each visit.

- Block number
- Site within the block (optional)
- Date, start time, end time
- Breeding code for every species you see

How should I submit data?

CONNECTICUT BIRD ATLAS – INCIDENTAL OBSERVATION FORM

Use this form to report breeding species detected incidentally (i.e., when not surveying an assigned block). Incidental records are especially valuable if they confirm breeding for a species, or involve unusual or difficult to find species.

- Location (block and/or lat-long)
- Date
- Breeding code for notable species
 - Confirmed breeding (always submit)
 - Hard to confirm species (always submit)
 - Rare species (always submit)

How do I know where I am?

- Use your phone to get lat/long
- Print and mark a map send us a copy
- Use the web site's interactive map and just use the block number

How do I know where I am?



Dropped Pin

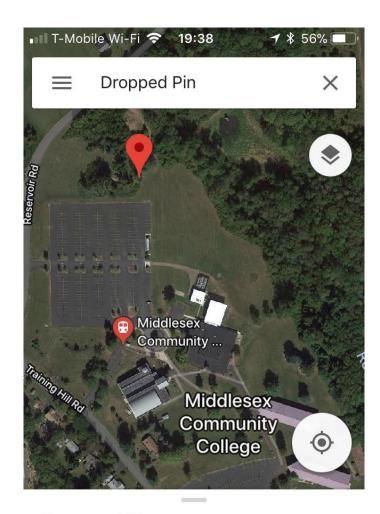
near Unnamed Road, Middletown, CT 06457





How do I know where I am?

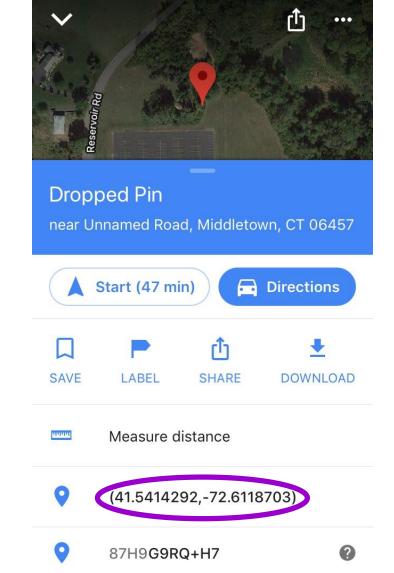
■■ T-Mobile Wi-Fi 🤝



Dropped Pin

near Unnamed Road, Middletown, CT 06457

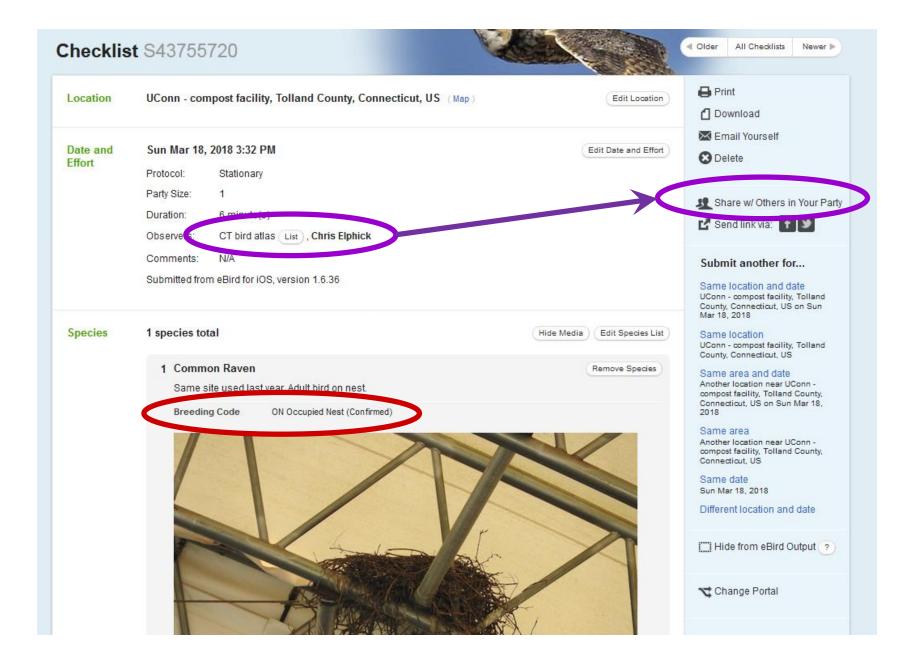


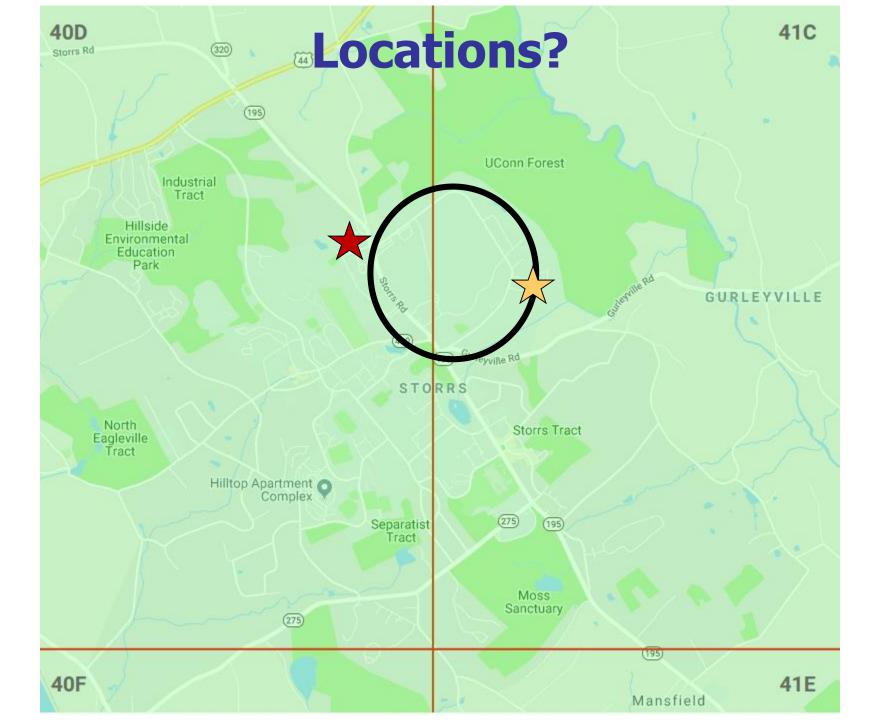


19:39

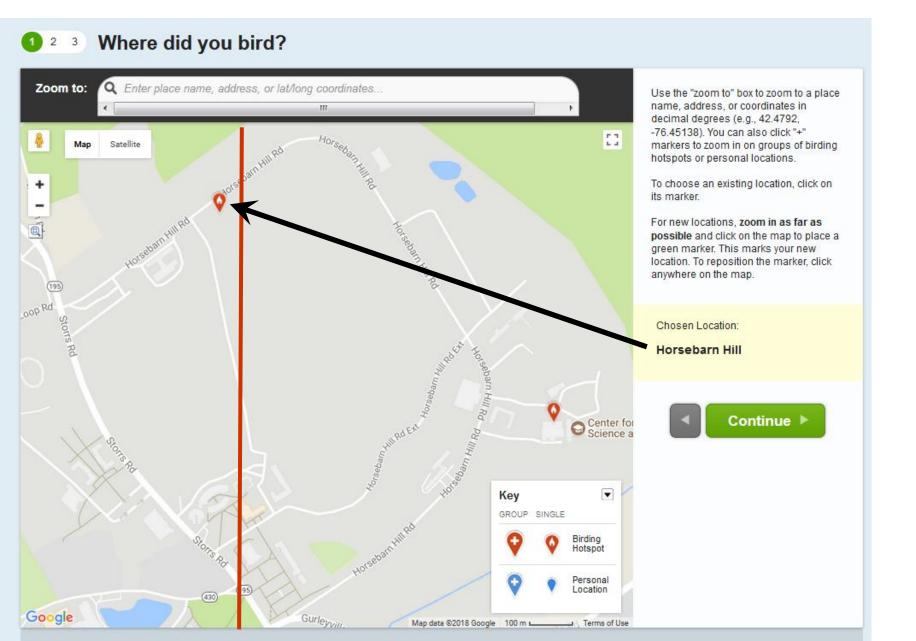
1 ★ 55% □

Can I use eBird?



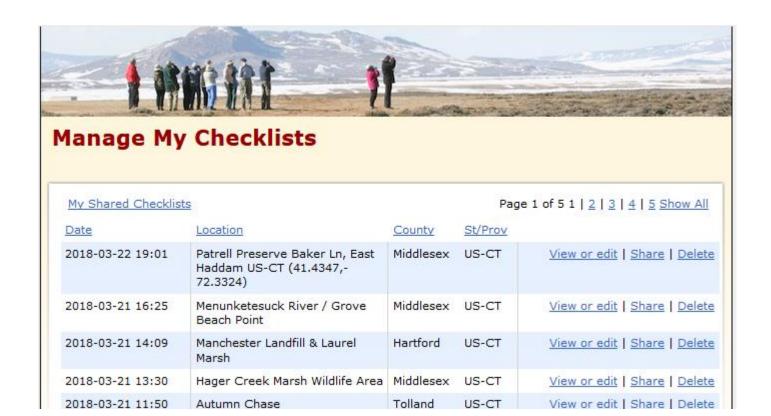


eBird hotspot warning ...



Do I have to use eBird?

- NO!!!
- But, if you do, share your checklists with ctbirdatlas



Atlas stats

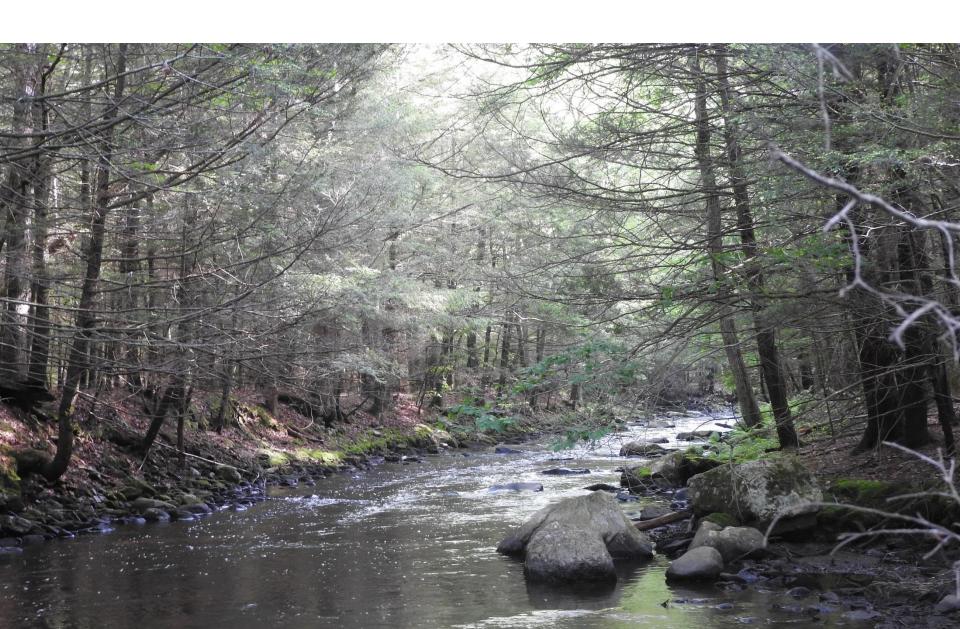
- 610 volunteers on email list
- 233 block adopters
- 327 blocks assigned (54%)
- 118 eBird checklists
- 2 species with more confirmations than first atlas

Winter surveys

Up to 20 hours/block over three years



Lead or join "block-busting" events



What else can I do?

- Go to a training session
- Read the blog
- Set aside time for the winter and stopover surveys

MARCH 23, 2018 EDIT

Hawks with sticks

A few days ago, Greg Hanisek wrote about his suggestions for finding hawk nests to confirm breeding for the atlas project. Greg was careful to point out the ethical issues involved with nest finding and the importance of not approaching too closely. With that issue in mind, it's important to note that there are several ways to confirm breeding without getting close to, or even finding, a nest.

RECENT POSTS

Hawks with sticks

Woodcocks galore

Nesting hawks

When is a pair of ducks really a pair of ducks?

Which eBird checklists should you share?

Continue reading



To volunteer: ctbirdatlasvol@gmail.com

For other information, contact:

chris.elphick@uconn.edu



ctbirdatlas.org
#ctbirdatlas
https://www.facebook.com/ctbirdatlasvol/

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Center for Conservation and Biodiversity University of Connecticut







Connecticut Department of ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION