Christmas Bird Count data field definitions
July 2013

ALL REPORTS
ABBREV – a four–digit unique circle code. The first two digits indicate the state, province or subnational area.

NAME – Descriptive name of the circle.

LATITUDE - Decimal latitude of the centroid of the location. Many entries are only defined to the minute if they were defined in the database prior to 2003.

LONGITUDE - Decimal longitude of the centroid of the location. Many entries are only defined to the minute if they were defined in the database prior to 2003.

SPECIES REPORT
SUBNATIONAL1 CODE - Single code of the form *cc-sss* that identifies the state, province, country-specific subnational region where the location primarily is (*cc* is a 2-letter country code, *sss* is the country-specific subnational code)

COUNTRY - 2-letter ISO 3166-1 country code.

COUNT_YR – Official year of the CBC count; count years start at 1 in the 1900-1901 count season.

CNT_DT - date and beginning time of the observations that make up this submission.

COM_NAME – Common AOU species name.

HOW_MANY - how many individuals of this species were seen. A zero in this field indicates this species was seen "count week" but not on the observation date. "Count week" is defined as from 3 days before to 3 days after the observation date.

ADULTS – Count of adult eagles seen

IMMATURES – count of immature eagles seen

UNKNOWNS – count of unknown age eagles seen

TOTALSPECIES - Total number of species seen for the count. In the context of the CBC only, this is defined as "The total number of species that will be recorded equals the number of AOU-listed ('real') species observed on count day plus any generic or sp. forms not represented within the list. For example, loon sp. counts in your total only if no other loons were identified to the species on count day. A species such as Dark-eyed Junco only counts once in your species total, even if three or four forms were identified on count day. Your total will not become official until it has been reviewed by CBC Regional Editors".

EDITOR_COMMENT - The reviewer's comments and code about this species observation

SORT_CBC – Sort number that will result in AOU sort order for species in AOU area.

EFFORT REPORT
FIELD_COUNTERS - Total number of observers participating in the count, excluding feederwatch observers.

FEEDER_COUNTERS - Number of feederwatch observers participating in the count

MIN_PARTIES - Minimum number of count parties in the field on the count day

MAX_PARTIES - Maximum number of count parties in the field on the count day

FEEDER_HRS - Total hours spent counting by Feederwatchers

NOCTURNAL_HRS - Total hours spent owling

EFFORT TYPE DESCRIPTION - Description of type of effort transportation used by count parties; e.g. foot, car, boat, skis.

DISTANCE - Party miles/kilometers for parties using the transportation method described in effort type description.

EFFORT UNIT DESCRIPTION – Unit of measurement for effort distance, e.g. miles or kilometers.

HOURS - Party hours for parties using the transportation method described in effort type description.

NOCTURNAL_DISTANCE - Total miles traveled by owling parties

WEATHER REPORT
MIN_TEMP - Low temp of the count day to the nearest degree, in degrees F

MAX_TEMP - High temp of the count day to nearest degree in F

MIN_WIND - Representative lower range of wind speed on count day; this is not the minimum wind speed observed on the count day; stored in MPH

MAX_WIND - Representative upper range of wind speed on count day; this is not the max wind speed observed on the count day; stored in MPH

WIND DIRECTION -
North
Northeast
East
Southeast
South

Southwest
Northwest
variable
calm
unknown

MIN_SNOW - Representative lower range for snow depth, reported to the nearest 0.25 inches; reported as 0 if there was no snow; stored in inches

MAX_SNOW - Representative upper range for snow depth, reported to the nearest 0.25 inches; reported as 0 if there was no snow; stored in inches

STILL WATER CONDITION - Ice cover over still water:
open
partly open
partly frozen
frozen
unk

MOVING WATER CONDITION - Ice cover over moving water:
open
partly open
partly frozen
frozen
unknown

AM_RAIN - Composite code of up to three digits representing all rain conditions encountered during the morning:
1 heavy
2 light
3 none
4 unknown

AM_SNOW - Composite code of up to three digits representing all snow conditions encountered during the morning:
1 heavy
2 light
3 none
4 unknown

AM_CLOUDS - Morning cloud cover:
clear
partly clear
partly cloudy
cloudy
foggy
local fog
unknown

PM_RAIN - Composite code of up to three digits representing all rain conditions encountered during the afternoon:
1 heavy
2 light
3 none
4 unknown

PM_SNOW - Composite code of up to three digits representing all snow conditions encountered during the afternoon:
1 heavy
2 light
3 none
4 unknown

PM_CLOUDS - afternoon cloud cover:
clear
partly clear
partly cloudy
cloudy
foggy
local fog
unknown