

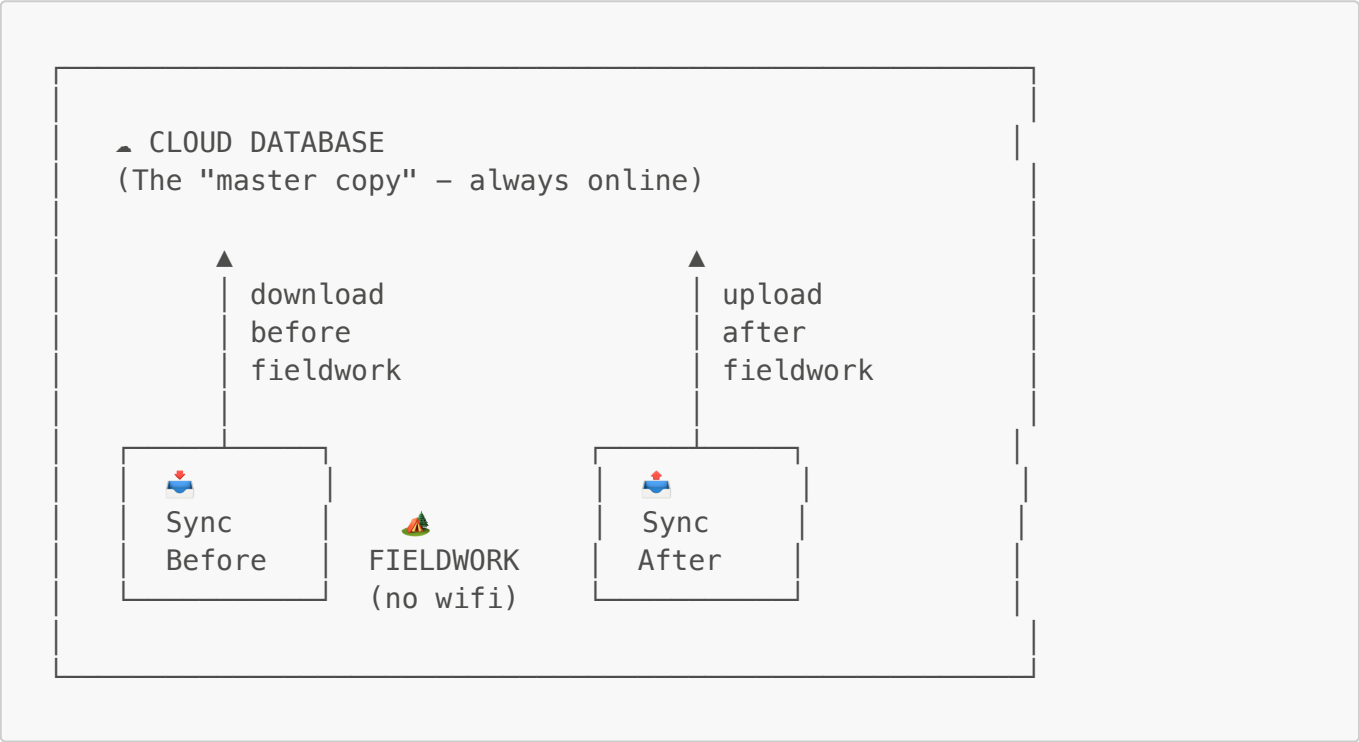
MBO Database - Offline Desktop App Proposal

What We're Building

A desktop app that lets you record bird data in the field **without internet**, then sync it back when you're online.

How It Works

Think of it Like a Shared Notebook



User Roles

Role	What They Can Do	Offline Access?
Admin	View, add, edit, delete data	Yes
Regular User	View data only	No (online only)

The Daily Workflow

17 A Typical Field Day

BEFORE FIELDWORK (somewhere with internet)

1. Admin opens the app

2. App downloads latest data from cloud

3. ✅ "Ready for offline use!"

🏕️ DURING FIELDWORK (no internet)

4. Admin records new bird captures
5. Data saves locally on laptop
6. App shows "🔴 Offline Mode"

🏠 AFTER FIELDWORK (somewhere with internet)

7. Admin opens app (auto-connects)
8. App uploads all new data to cloud
9. ✅ "All changes synced!"

The Golden Rule ⚠️

Only ONE offline admin at a time!

✅ CORRECT

Day 1: Alice
goes offline
↓
Alice
returns,
uploads
↓
✅ All good!

❌ WRONG

Day 1: Alice AND Bob
both go offline
↓ ↓
Alice Bob
both add
Bird #50
↓ ↓
🔥 CONFLICT!
Whose Bird #50
is correct?

Why? If two people edit data offline at the same time, the system can't know whose changes are correct.

Alternative: Use Mobile Hotspot

If possible, admins can use their phone's mobile hotspot for internet access in the field:





✅ No syncing needed

- ✔ Multiple people can work
- ✔ Changes save instantly

How to Get the App

Download

Visit our website and download the app for your computer:

Computer Type	Download
 Mac	Download the .dmg file
 Windows	Download the .exe file

Install

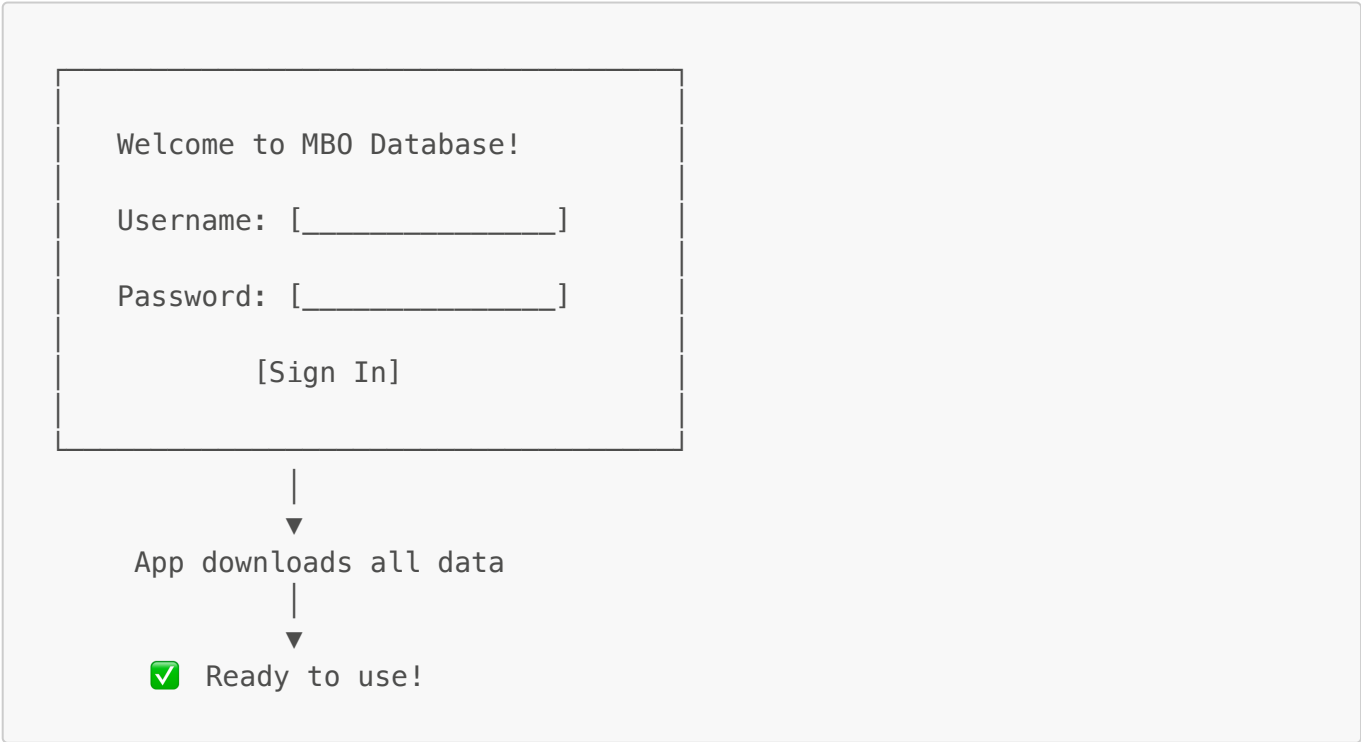
Mac:

1. Open the downloaded **.dmg** file
2. Drag the app to your Applications folder
3. Done!


Windows:

1. Run the downloaded **.exe** file
2. Follow the installation wizard
3. Done!

First Launch (requires internet!)



Quick Reference Card

Situation	What to Do
Going to field (no wifi)?	Open app with internet first, let it sync, then close. You're ready!
Back from field?	Connect to internet, open app, wait for "Synced  ", done!
Someone else needs offline access?	Make sure YOU upload first, then they can download
Have mobile hotspot?	Use online mode - no syncing worries!
Just want to look at data?	Any user can view anytime (needs internet)

Summary

Feature	Details
Available for	Mac and Windows
Who can use offline?	Admins only
How many offline at once?	ONE admin at a time
Who syncs?	The admin who worked offline
What can regular users do?	View data (online only)
Best practice	Use mobile hotspot when possible

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What if I forget to sync after fieldwork?

A: Your data is safe on your laptop! Just sync next time you have internet. BUT make sure no one else goes offline before you upload.

Q: Can I see who made changes?

A: Yes! All entries are tagged with who added them and when.

Q: What if the app crashes in the field?

A: Data is saved after each entry. Reopen the app and continue - nothing is lost.

Q: What if I don't have internet for several days?

A: No problem! Data stays on your laptop until you can sync. Just remember: only one admin should be working offline during that time.

Q: Can two admins work at the same time if they both have internet?

A: Yes! When everyone is online, multiple people can work at the same time with no issues.

Visual Summary

