Filling out the Citizen Science Bird Survey

eBird is a real-time, online checklist program that documents the presence or absence of species, as well as bird abundance through checklist data submitted by people like you! To properly submit your observations to eBird, below you will find directions on how to fill out the survey.

Please fill out one survey per group.

1. **Date:** Fill in the date that the survey was completed (MM/DD/YYYY)
2. **Location:** Write down the location at which you were conducting the bird survey (i.e. Hidden Falls Regional Park).
3. **Birding type:** Choose *one* of the following birding types that was conducted for this survey:
    a. <u>Stationary</u> – You stayed at a fixed location—watching from a window, hawkwatching, seawatching.
    b. <u>Traveling</u> – You traveled a specific distance—walking a trail, driving a refuge loop, field birding.
    c. <u>Historical</u> – Birding was your primary purpose, but you cannot estimate start time, duration, and distance; use Traveling or Stationary if you can estimate these.
    d. <u>Incidental</u> – Birding was not your primary purpose – noting a bird while driving or gardening.
4. **Time Started:** Fill in the time started (noting AM/PM).
5. **Duration:** Fill in the duration (in hours and/or minutes)—how long the birdwatching was when you were completing the bird survey.
6. **Distance:** If you chose Traveling as your birding type, fill in the distance you traveled.
7. **Total Observers:** Fill in the total number of people in your birding party.
8. **Completed Checklist?** We want to find out whether you are reporting all the birds you were able to identify to the best of your ability. Answer 'Yes' to this question when you record every species present that you found; not just the highlights. Answering 'Yes' to this question also presumes that birding was your primary purpose; if you were not focused on birding please use the 'Incidental' option.

    We realize that all birds are not identifiable and user abilities vary. If you do the best you can, please answer 'Yes'.

    You should always answer 'Yes' to this question unless you are purposefully excluding some species (e.g., European Starlings) from your checklist.

    You do not need to count all the individuals present to answer 'Yes' to this question (you can enter 'x' for species you observed but did not count). Please do try to report all species; it improves our ability to analyze your data.

9. For quantitative observations, you can record the number representing the counts you saw by the name of the bird. For qualitative observations, you can record the presence of the birds you see by marking 'x' by the name of the bird.