The Goal

Since 1970, we’ve lost an estimated total of 2.9 billion birds across North America, that is 1 in 4 birds now gone! This includes common species like the White-throated Sparrow (down by 93 million). However, targeted survey and conservation efforts can help #bringbirdsback!

Through our Bird Atlas, we can create a detailed picture of bird abundance, distribution and habitat needs which aids in making important conservation decisions and potentially prevent listing species as endangered or even becoming extinct.

Resources

For more information and materials like the Atlas Handbook: ncbirdatlas.org

For detailed habitat and life history information: Cornell’s allaboutbirds.org

For in-the-field bird ID and birdsong ID use Merlin Bird ID App.

For collecting birding information and submitting checklists: the eBird App.

More Questions?

Website: ncbirdatlas.org
E-mail: coordinator@ncbirdatlas.org

COVER PHOTO: YELLOW WARBLER
Ray Hennessy/Unsplash
What is the NC Bird Atlas?

This NC Bird Atlas is a 5-year statewide community science project that will harness the power of thousands of volunteer birdwatchers to map the distribution and abundance of birds from the Blue Ridge Mountains to the Outer Banks. These observations will give researchers a comprehensive picture of bird populations across North Carolina.

Priority Blocks

To ensure thorough coverage across the state, sampling units called blocks have been established using a grid system. 937 Priority Blocks (~ 10 mi² areas) were systematically chosen to get a representative sample of the state. These Priority Blocks will focus our survey efforts insuring that we collect information on Every Species and Every Habitat.

Breeding Codes

During their respective breeding seasons, Atlasers should use Breeding Codes to describe what they are seeing. There are 4 possible categories related to the level of evidence they provide for breeding:

- Observed
- Possible
- Probable
- Confirmed

Getting Started

- Go to NCBirdAtlas.org, sign up for our newsletter and watch atlasing tutorials.
- Create an eBird account.
- Record observations in the NC Bird Atlas Portal within eBird.
- Review Bird Breeding Behavior Codes and add them to your observations.
- Check out the online Atlas Block map for areas to Atlas.
- Get out and Atlas within Priority Blocks.

Other Ways to Contribute

- Have property that is in a Priority Block? Give volunteer Atlasers permission to survey in it!
- Show your support by purchasing some merchandise at shop.NCBirdAtlas.org
- Share your photos and stories at coordinator@ncbirdatlas.org
- Get the word out in your community!