



2023 Bird-a-thon Rules & Regulations

The 2023 HCAS Bird-a-thon must take place within the 5 counties of HCAS: Allegheny, Ashe, Avery, Watauga and Wilkes. We encourage you to use social media to share your sightings during the event. Tag us at @HighCountryAudubon or #HighCountryAudubon.

All recipients of HCAS Yahoo listserv are eligible to participate, including those joining HCAS and/or the listserv prior to May 5th. The goal is to see or hear as many bird species as possible during the 24 hour period—and, have fun! We will celebrate our sightings and the winning team at a pizza party on Sunday, May 14th, so we need to have the results in as soon as possible.

Teams:

Teams shall consist of 2-5 people. Teams must register by **5 PM, May 10th, 2023**. Forms to be provided separately. An individual may NOT participate on more than one team.

The 2023 bird-a-thon timeframe is any **24-hour period during May 12th-13th, 2023**. *Every member of a team has to use the same 24-hour period.*

“Virtual” teams are allowed. However, at least 2 members of any team with more than one member must see/hear each species for it to count. The preferred method for tracking birds is eBird; however, a list of species seen/heard is sufficient. No sub-species counts are allowed.

Submitting Results:

Team leader is responsible for turning in results by **9 AM May 14th, 2023**.

- ▶ Via eBird OR completed checklist.
- ▶ eBird link OR completed checklist must be emailed to BOTH Sheryl McNair at sammcnair@yahoo.com AND Janet Paulette at janetpaulette@gmail.com

Birding protocol:

Birds must be alive, wild, and unrestrained; should not include those attracted by sound recordings. Eggs do not count. Neither ornamental waterfowl nor escaped cage birds can be counted.

Each participant shall maintain proper birding ethics at all times and follow the American Birding Association’s Code of Birding Ethics. Abide by all endangered or threatened species laws and regulations. Obey posted property rules. FOLLOW APPROPRIATE COVID GUIDELINES WITH YOUR TEAM.
