



## CBC RARE BIRD DOCUMENTATION FORM

Submitted as documentation of  
(check all that apply):

Unusual species     Unusual date     Unusual habitat

1. Count Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Count Code: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Species \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_
3. Date (s) of Observation \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
Earlier/Later dates by others, if known \_\_\_\_\_
4. Place \_\_\_\_\_  
Nearest town \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_
5. Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone/fax/e-mail \_\_\_\_\_
6. Observation Details:  
Other Observers \_\_\_\_\_  
Optics \_\_\_\_\_  
Distance from bird \_\_\_\_\_ Viewing conditions \_\_\_\_\_  
Weather, sky cover \_\_\_\_\_  
Photo taken?  Video?  Sound recording?  Specimen?   
Are these available to the CBC Regional Editor?  Where are they? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Past Experience: With this or similar species? \_\_\_\_\_
8. References or advice consulted: \_\_\_\_\_
9. Was this report done from notes made during or after observation or from memory? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Notes: On back of form give complete details of this observation. Use additional sheets as needed. Include information on the bird's plumage, shape, size, vocalizations, habitat, behavior, etc. Describe exactly what you saw; include photocopies of your original notes and sketches. Name the species that you considered ID contenders; explain how you eliminated them.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**OBSERVERS: Return to Compiler before Jan 15, or Regional Editor thereafter.  
Compiler may send directly to Regional Editor**

For Regional Editor's address, please see the Regional Summaries in the 103<sup>rd</sup> CBC issue of *American Birds* or visit: [http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/regional/regional\\_ed.html](http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/regional/regional_ed.html)

### PLEASE SEND PHOTOS TAKEN

Label photos on back with name, email and phone number of photographer. Any photo submitted may be considered for publication (with photographer's permission) in *American Birds, Summary of the 104<sup>th</sup> CBC*.

## DOCUMENTATION FOR UNUSUAL AND RARE SPECIES ON IDAHO CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

Species requiring documentation for Idaho Christmas Bird Counts are listed below. This list includes species that are reported on occasion without documentation and are tricky identifications, are documented unnecessarily, or are just plain rare and may eventually occur on an Idaho CBC. Please take note of the comments excluding some regions. Just because a species is not on the list doesn't mean it shouldn't be documented. Please use common sense here.

Any species which is particularly rare in winter (even if common at other times), new for Idaho, or on the Idaho Review List (<http://idahobirds.net/ibrc/reviewspecies.html>) and not listed below should generally also be documented. Compilers may require documentation for any additional species at their discretion and I'm happy to review that and adhere to their stricter standard in those cases. (Of course compilers may simply omit records not meeting their standards without my involvement.) Species reported without required documentation will be deleted or included with ND (No Details) annotation in the CBC database at my discretion. Thank you for your assistance!

Documentation should include circumstances of the sighting (what, who, where, when) along with a recognizable photo or description of the bird. If a description is provided it should include how similar species (if any) were eliminated. The observer's familiarity with the species is useful but not critical. Reports can be tailored to the rarity and difficulty of identification of the species involved. Generally the rarer and more difficult to identify species should be documented more thoroughly.

### SPECIES REVIEW LIST

Loons (other than Common)	Yes.
Grebes	No, except Clark's Grebe; Eared Grebe should be identified w/ care away from SW Idaho
Trumpeter Swan	No in eastern Idaho (Twin Falls area and east) where they occur regularly in winter but yes elsewhere
Snow Goose, Ross's Goose, G. White-fronted Goose	generally not when carefully identified except at compiler's discretion.
Cackling Goose	Yes, w/ photos greatly appreciated and identified to subspecies where possible, very uncommon and still regularly misidentified.
Cinnamon/Blue-winged Teal	Males accepted w/o review if stated as such. Otherwise females need description
Eurasian Wigeon	No
Greater Scaup	No, but should be identified w/ care where rare-uncommon
Long-tailed Duck	No where regularly occurring (e.g. Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston-Clarkston, CJ Strike) but yes elsewhere.
Red-breasted Merganser	Not where regularly occurring but yes elsewhere
Turkey Vulture	Yes, winter status may be changing in s. Idaho.
Osprey	Yes, a few occur most years along the Snake R. in s. Idaho but should still be documented.
Peregrine Falcon	No, but should be carefully identified away from regularly occurring locations (e.g. known nesting locations, waterfowl concentrations), Prairie Falcon is by far the most common large falcon in Idaho in winter and mis-identifying one as a Peregrine is possible, Peregrine Falcons are comparatively rare esp. in winter
Gyr Falcon	Yes

Shorebirds	All shorebird species should be documented except Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe, and Dunlin on the few counts where they occur regularly.
Gulls	gulls other than the basic 4 species – Bonaparte's, Ring-billed, California, Herring – should be documented and photos are really appreciated here. Mew, Thayer's, Glaucous, and Glaucous-winged Gulls are rare but regular in winter gull concentrations, Lesser-black Backed Gulls appears to be increasing but is still quite rare, and any other species should be really well documented
Eurasian Collared-Dove	No need to document.
Snowy Owl	Yes
Anna's Hummingbird	Yes (by far the most likely winter hummingbird in Idaho), usually fairly easily documented especially if a male. And of course any other hummingbird species reported should be well documented, probably with a photo
Say's Phoebe	No for Snake R. plain & Lewiston-Clarkston, yes elsewhere.
Swallows, all species	Yes
House Wren	Yes - must be well documented, probably w/ a photograph. Marsh and Winter Wrens occur in a variety possibly unfamiliar (to a birder) habitats and cause confusion for the unsuspecting
Loggerhead Shrike	Yes, due to possible confusion w/ Northern Shrike - by far the most likely wintering shrike species
Warblers	Any warbler species should be well documented, except Yellow-rumped on any count and Orange-crowned on the few s. Idaho counts where they occur regularly
Chipping Sparrow	Yes, especially if reported in breeding plumage (most likely to be an A. Tree Sparrow) and note that winter plumage Clay-colored Sparrow is perhaps as likely and separating these 2 species is not trivial. Photos of either of these species are greatly appreciated (and often possible as they often occur at feeders)
Clay-colored Sparrow	Yes, and see Chipping Sparrow above.
Brewer's Sparrow	Yes, and also very similar to Clay-colored/chipping in winter
Vesper Sparrow	Yes
Sage Sparrow	Yes
Savannah Sparrow	No in lower Snake R. plain (Twin Falls west), yes elsewhere.
Fox Sparrow	Yes, very few documented winter records.
Lincoln's Sparrow	No in lower Snake R. plain (Twin Falls west), yes elsewhere.
Swamp Sparrow	Yes
White-throated Sparrow	No
Harris's Sparrow	No.
Golden-crowned Sparrow	No in lower Snake R. plain (Twin Falls west), yes elsewhere.
Lapland Longspur	No except in Panhandle. Any other longspurs should be well documented
Snow Bunting	No
Common Grackle	Yes
Great-tailed Grackle	Yes, usually easy to document
Purple Finch	Yes
White-winged Crossbill	Yes, rarely reported in any case
Hoary Redpoll	Yes