

Whistler's 2022 Christmas Bird Count



Birds Canada [Birds Canada](#) and Audubon's annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) is celebrating 123 years, as North America's longest Citizen Science project! There are over 2000 sites participating!

Whistler CBC

The Whistler CBC is always first out of the gate on day 1 of the 3-week period. Our date this year is Wednesday **December 14th for the field count. This year we are welcoming the public to join us.** You don't have to be an expert. We can buddy you up with an experienced birder. Mentorship is free!

December 11,12,13 -15,16, 17 are considered “**Count days**” and bird species on count days may be called in to be recorded on the database (just in case those species don’t show up on count day).

On December 14th, volunteer participants will spend time in the outdoors searching for and counting birds by numbers and species at designated areas. All results are recorded and tallied by the local compiler then submitted to the Canadian database with Birds Canada. The data is then reviewed and submitted to Audubon for further compilation which becomes a massive database for researchers, governments, journalists, and birders.

If you have a bird feeder up in your yard but won’t be home during daylight hours, let us know your address and we will have a counter come by to observe your feeder.

Resources and Tools

Birding is getting so much easier with all the helpful apps available to record the sights and sounds of Birds. One Free app for your smartphone that is getting excellent reviews is “Merlin Bird ID” [about Cornell Labs Merlin app](#) This app will record sounds of birds and give suggestions on identification and also has a reference to explore birds or you can upload a photo of a bird for identification with fairly good accuracy. [E Bird Canada](#) is another useful tool to upload and record birding sights and maps out the bird location, can record your walking route and mileage. A camera is a helpful tool to capture a photo of a bird that you are wary about identifying or to capture a photo as evidence of a rare bird sighting, to be confirmed by experts.

If you are not up to facing the Whistler weather... you can help out if you have a birdfeeder to intermittently watch, record and report from the comfort of your home. Bears should all be in hibernation on December 14th so it is safe to have feeders out during the daytime hours.

How to Participate in a Count or a Feeder Count

We count during the daylight hours between 8:00 am to 4:00 pm on December 14. Counters can cover designated areas on foot, cross country skis, in vehicles, downhill skis, kayaks or canoes, or by any of the above.

For the Whistler Bird count please contact **Shawn Mason-** shamas.mason5@gmail.com or if you would like further information or a request to participate.

[Christmas Bird Counter cheat sheet](#)

A Feeder count can be phoned in after 4 pm on December 14. [Feeder Count cheat sheet](#)

To report all birds on “Count days” or CBC day on December 14th please call Shawn at **604 612 1167 after 4 pm** (leave a call back message -if busy signal)