

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS MEETING MINUTES

We have about 20 accounts left to go from various authors. Our ever present time table is:

- **Have comments to Carol for her accounts ASAP (gone 4/27-6/9)
- **Complete all species accounts by May 1
- **Submit copy of literature cited in Word Perfect (in alphabetical order) to Nongame Program, May 1. This will be compiled and sent to J. Dinsmore to edit.
- **Route completed accounts and receive comments
- **Revised drafts due June 9--send to Nongame office so we can make sure all the accounts are done, then work with the editor rather than the editor having to deal with all 7 of us.
- **Edited accounts will be sent back to authors. Final draft due to Nongame office **November 1, 1994.**
- **Laura will write intro chapters to be routed August 1.
- **Carol will write acknowledgements
- **John will continue with photo's--we need a list of what we have so we can ask our respective sources for submissions. July 1 for a list?
- **Carol, John & Bob will check costs, needs and distribution of various printers
- **Copy to printer December **1994!**
- **Printed before end of FY94-95 to get \$12,000 (NG & USFWS) and hopefully some REAP money
- **We could use a volunteer to contact Audubon & I.O.U. members to see if they could get some local businesses to purchase copies of the book for their local schools.

FORMAT

Species (***** *)

	Priority	Standard
Observed	--	--
Possible	--	--
Probable		
Confirmed		

NO SUBTITLE--just start with your intro then flow into national distribution and abundance, historic Iowa d & a, current Iowa d & a.

Atlas Data

Yes, that is your first subtitle. Make sure you elaborate here since this is the gist of the book. Discuss confirmation level, most frequently used codes, priority vs standard, percent blocks the species occurred in, patterns in distribution with habitat or landform features, possible biases in the data, most common--least common, whatever is appropriate for your species.

Life History

Yes, another subtitle. Include topics such as habitat, arrival dates, courtship, nest stuff, clutch size (remember nest card info if sample size is adequate), incubation, fledgling, nest success, natural mortality, and other appropriately interesting things.

Factors Affecting Distribution

This is your last subtitle. This is where habitat (loss or creation), competition, food, chemicals, whatever is discussed as helping spread or limit a species. Topics also include how land uses, fragmentation, farm programs (CRP), national programs (PPJV), urbanization, nest boxes, and so on might be affecting a species. What is the species future in the state? How might it be improved? This can have citations and your best speculation.

INTRO CHAPTER

The intro will be a cross between very short (Ohio) and very long (Michigan). Below are topics I know I'll cover--what else might you suggest?

- I. Methods:
 - Sampling design
 - Coverage goals
 - Survey procedures
 - Breeding codes
 - Standard/priority blocks
 - Data collection
 - Other data sources used
 - Editing & verification

- Final coverage
 - Participation
 - Limitations & Biases
 - Major common references
 - (Peterson guides etc)
- II. BBA highlights (most common, rarest, range specific)
- III. Landforms of Iowa
 - Changes in landscape and fauna
 - Habitat types
 - Conservation measures
 - Envirotoxins
- IV. Maps (any more??)
 - Total blocks
 - Standard/Priority
 - Block numbers
 - Number of species found in each block
 - Number of species/county
 - Done/incomplete
 - Landforms
 - Waterways
 - Land cover (forest, urban, agriculture are most definitive, but we could also add wetlands, grasslands etc to see how it looks)
 - For Nongame Records: each county, with land cover in atlas

blocks

Please note Carol made a lotus file with land cover percentages for each block so if you want to do nifty stuff like find out if species X tended to use blocks with over 50% woodlands (or whatever) that is possible.

We're gaining! It appears we work hard to meet deadlines when we have an upcoming meeting and have to face each other. Just so we continue to make progress, how about a meeting in August to gage how we are doing on the photographs, final revisions, intro chapter, printer and maps. Let's plan on August 10, 10 a.m. probably Des Moines. Let me know if you have a conflict.

One question I forgot to ask, are we going to use atlas data to say a specie is rare, uncommon or common? If so, how many blocks (or level of confirmation) would equal each category? We would need to standardize this if we will be making these kind of statements.

Thanks again for all of your hard work!