

The NJ Important Bird and Birding Areas Program

Birding Area Nomination Form



Thank you for participating in New Jersey Audubon's Important Bird and Birding Areas Program. Your help is greatly appreciated. Please read the accompanying Guidelines **before** you fill out this form. Supply as much of the requested information as possible. You can fill-in this form on-line using Adobe Acrobat Reader. **Submit your nomination(s) by March 1, 2006.**

Name: Last _____ First _____ Middle _____ Title (if applicable) _____

Organization (if applicable) _____ Address:1st Line _____

Address: 2nd Line _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____ Email _____ Fax _____

SITE INFORMATION

1. Name of Site _____ 2. County(ies) _____ 3. Town(s)/Municipality(ies) _____

4a. Directions to site using nearest major town and highway

4b. Specific directions to birding areas within the site (by car, foot, boat, etc.). If available please include a map of the site with birding areas circled. (Or simply reference page numbers in A Guide to Bird Finding in NJ by Bill Boyle, or other birding publications)

5. Approx. Size in Acres (If Known) _____

6. Habitat Types (**Check all that apply.**)

Deciduous Woods Coniferous Woods Mixed Woods Orchard
 Shrub/Scrub Grassland Cultivated Field Fallow Field
 Open Water Beach/Dune Tidal Wetland Non-tidal Wetland
 Stream Associated Urban/Suburban Other _____

7. Briefly describe the general appearance/scenery.

BIRDING OPPORTUNITIES

This section is critical to support your nomination. Please give as much information as possible.

8. How many different species of birds can you see:

during a typical outing at the site? (Check One)

_____ more than 50 species _____ 20 -50 species _____ less than 20 species

throughout the year at the site (i.e. average yearly species total)? (Check One)

_____ more than 50 species _____ 20 -50 species _____ less than 20 species

9. Do the terrain, viewing and access modifications such as trails, platforms, roads, tours, etc., combine to make it ___EASY, ___MODERATE, or ___DIFFICULT (*Check one choice*) to observe the birds, for an average birder?

10. Can you see birds consistently when they're there? Can the target birds for this site be seen:

___ Reliably (>75% of outings) ___ Somewhat reliably (50-75% of outings) ___ Not reliably (<50% of outings)

11. Does the site feature large concentrations of birds? (within season – not all sites will have large numbers in all seasons) (Check One)

_____ 1 There are massive flocks to the point where the spectacle is awe-inspiring.

_____ 2. Many individuals in view at all times.

_____ 3. There are at least a few birds visible at all times.

_____ 4. Birds can always be found with minimal searching.

12. What are the most commonly seen bird groups? (**Check all that apply**)

_____ Waterbirds ___ Landbirds _____ Waterfowl Other (Specify):
 _____ Shorebirds _____ Marsh Birds Raptors _____

13. Please list in the following table several specific bird species that can be seen, the best season(s) for viewing, and the reliability of viewing (High more than 75% of the time, Medium 50-75%, Low less than 50%).

Species	Best Season(s)	Reliability

14. Are the species at the site either rare or especially attractive to people due to their beauty, symbolic meaning, or overall appeal? _____ Yes _____ No _____ Unsure

What species?

SITE SENSITIVITY

15. Can the site be visited by people without negative conservation impacts to wildlife or other natural resources at the site? **(Check one)**

- 1. Damage minimal to none
- 2. Minor issues present but can be mitigated
- 3. Significant problems that may be difficult to mitigate
- 4. Site and species cannot withstand regular visitation

16. In addition to the visitation the site currently receives, what additional level can it accommodate? **(Check one)** High Moderate Low

17. Can the site be visited by groups of birders? **(Check one)**

- 1. Group visits at any time are acceptable with no or minimal impacts
- 2. Occasional, well-managed group visits could be acceptable
- 3. Group visits would not be appropriate at the site

18. Is the site likely to remain in its current condition for the foreseeable future (habitat, species) either naturally or with existing management activities? Yes No

ACCESS, IMPROVEMENTS, AND INTERPRETATION

19. Ownership Types(s)- **(Check all that apply.)**

- Private Corporate Municipal State Federal
- Non-governmental Conservation Agency
- Other (Explain) _____

20. Is the site legal and accessible for birdwatching? Yes No Unsure
Please explain (if needed)

21. Are roads to and at the site paved, gravel, dirt? Are they passable year-round? Please give details.

22. Is the parking paved or unimproved (approx. number of spaces)? How far is it from the birding areas?

23. Please complete the following table detailing improvements and facilities available at the site.

	Yes	No	Unsure	Condition/Comments
Restrooms				
Trash Receptacles				
Trails				
Boardwalks				
Viewing Platforms/Towers				
Interpretive Signs				
Brochures, Maps, etc.				
Visitor/Nature Center				
Handicap Access				
Other (drinking water, phones, etc.)				

COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND SAFETY

24. Do the businesses nearby specifically cater to and welcome birders? ____ Yes ____ No ____ Unsure

25. Does the community offer or promote activities involving birding (birding festivals, etc.)? ____ Yes ____ No
Please give details.

26. Are there public safety hazards at the site? ____ Yes ____ No ____ Unsure

If yes, please explain.

27. Is there potential for conflict between birders and other user groups (hunters, ORVs, etc.)?

____ Yes ____ No

If yes, please explain.

LAND OWNERSHIP/LAND USE INFORMATION

28. Ownership Information (If Known)

Name of Owner 1

Name of Owner 2

Name of individual contact, if applicable

Name of individual contact, if applicable

Relationship of contact to owner

Relationship of contact to owner

Address of owner

Address of owner

Address of owner

Address of owner

City

City

State

State

Zip

Zip

Telephone

Telephone

Email

Email

29. Land Use(s) – **Check all that apply.**

____ Agriculture/cultivation

____ Pasture

____ Water Supply

____ Recreation/Tourism

____ Mining

____ Residential Development

____ Commercial Development

____ Urban/Industrial/Utility

____ Forestry

____ Fisheries/Aquaculture

____ Wildlife Management/Natural Areas/Land Trusts

____ Other _____

30. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR SUPPORTING INFORMATION/REFERENCES

Also, please send via email or US mail any materials that will help support your nomination including maps, photos, and contact information for others with knowledge of the site, to Cristina Frank, IBBA Coordinator. All nominations will be reviewed by the NJ IBBA Technical Committees.

After completion, print this form out and send it to Cristina Frank, Cape May Bird Observatory, 600 Route 47 North, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210. If you (or any interested parties you may encounter) need further assistance, call Cristina Frank, the New Jersey Important Bird and Birding Areas Coordinator at 609-861-0700 or email at cristina.frank@njudubon.org