



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

News Release

BLM Paria River District

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Paria River District supports citizen scientists with Christmas Bird Count tradition

KANAB, Utah — Beginning Dec. 14 and throughout the holiday season, the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Paria River District will support citizen scientists who once again fan out across America to help the National Audubon Society conduct a winter-bird census, commonly called the Christmas Bird Count. For more than a century, this community-based science project has become an annual tradition for many, resulting in valuable scientific data collection for the National Audubon Society, which is later made available to researchers.

BLM staff will help carry on this tradition by coordinating and receiving forms for a Christmas Bird Count in Kanab, Utah, to support the National Audubon Society's 122nd Christmas Bird Count this year. Nationally, the Christmas Bird Count occurs annually from Dec. 14, 2021, through Jan. 5, 2022.

The health and safety of our federal workforce and the communities we serve remain a top priority. All Federal employees, onsite contractors, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a mask inside Federal buildings. To protect yourself while taking part in outdoor events, please follow the guidance from local, State, and Federal authorities, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). When outdoors, unmasked participants should maintain at least a six-foot distance from BLM staff and other volunteers, while taking part in all events.

Local bird count details include:

- Christmas Bird Count forms may be emailed to Lisa Church at lchurch@blm.gov or mailed to the BLM Paria River District Office, 669 S. Hwy 89A, Kanab, UT 84741.
- If returning count forms in person, the BLM requires everyone to wear masks when inside Federal buildings.
- Even if you cannot join the BLM in Kanab, bird counters may participate from anywhere, including from the convenience of their backyard.

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This year, we invite everyone to reimagine your public lands as we celebrate 75 years of the BLM's stewardship and service to the American people. The BLM manages approximately 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The agency's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

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