

Maritimes Breeding Bird Atlas - Call for Species Account Authors

The Maritimes Breeding Bird Atlas is looking for volunteer authors to write species accounts to be included in the upcoming book and web publication.

Writers will be required to clearly and succinctly summarise key features of species maps (i.e., current abundance and changes in distribution since the previous Atlas), as well as tables and graphs showing changes in the probability of detection since the first Atlas. Species accounts will only be 250 words in length so authors must be able to convey information concisely and be able to follow fairly stringent guidelines. As well, because we want a consistent writing style among accounts, we are looking for authors who are able to write several accounts (e.g. 10 or more) for taxonomic groups of birds (e.g., woodpeckers, seabirds, etc.) and who are willing to take on accounts as assigned. Accounts will need to be written during 2011. Authors will be provided with detailed instructions including a *species account template* and *style guide* and will be expected to follow them carefully.

Essential qualifications include:

- 1) Ability to write clearly and concisely;
- 2) Ability to follow detailed instructions and meet deadlines;
- 3) Knowledge of Maritime breeding bird species and their ecology; detailed knowledge of one or more taxonomic groups of Maritimes breeding birds is an advantage;
- 4) Familiarity with Canadian, and especially Maritimes, geography and ecological habitats;
- 5) Experience in, and ability to convey, scientific information to a general audience;
- 6) Willingness to use an online editing system to download and review materials for authors.

To apply, please send by e-mail: 1) a Résumé, 2) a one page letter summarizing your ornithological expertise and writing experience, and, 3) a sample of scientific writing for a general audience (two paragraphs), to Kate Bredin at the Maritimes Breeding Bird Atlas: (kbredin@bsc-eoc.org). For additional information please e-mail or call 506-364-5045.

Species Account authors will be selected by the MBBA Steering Committee.
Application Deadline: 15 March 2011