



C Photo: Rufous Hummingbird in New York City by David Speiser
www.lilibirds.com

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**Special Christmas Bird Count
Edition**

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"The CBC isn't just monitoring birds, it's monitoring the ecosystem. It's monitoring the human life-support system."

Robert Templeton,
CBC compiler in New Mexico

**NEWS FROM THE AUDUBON
NETWORK**

*Highlights of recent news coverage,
achievements, and events*

Audubon's 112th Christmas Bird Count Inspires Binocular Brigades & Holiday Family Tradition Up & Down the Hemisphere

For three weeks, upward of 60,000 volunteers will head outside as part of the largest, longest-running wildlife census in the world: the Audubon Christmas Bird Count.

From the Arctic Circle to New Orleans to South America, these volunteers take part in 2,000-plus "count circles" with passion and commitment; they know they belong to an army that has made a difference since 1900. They are among the millions of community heroes who act when Congress won't, who take conservation personally, and who teach their kids that individual action matters. If that all sounds pretty inspiring, it is.

Read more of Audubon President David Yarnold's Op Ed which will appear in newspapers across the country during the holidays, starting with the *Miami Herald*

When crowdsourcing is bandied about as a 21st century invention from the wizards of Silicon Valley, the organizers of the National Audubon Society's annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) have a good chuckle. Audubon has been engaged with crowdsourcing for over a century. However, while the bird count might be celebrating its 112th year, the technology behind it is definitely not. More at <http://bit.ly/tNKJIO>

Audubon Chief Scientist Dr. Gary Langham will be on **NPR Science Friday today** at 3:30 PM ET. When host Ira Flatow invites listeners to call in, this is your chance to tell listeners what you saw on your Christmas Bird Count: tel 800 989 8255. Listen live at <http://www.sciencefriday.com/about/listen>

Jessica Green, VP of Engagement for Audubon, was among the bundled-up birders who braved the cold last Sunday in Central Park. "It was inspiring to see so many birders - young and old - come together in Central Park, where the Christmas Bird Count began 112 years ago. And we were just a small number of the more than 60,000 crowd-scientists who are collecting data across the hemisphere this December." <http://t.co/sGBKf4GW>

Before Frank Chapman came along, there was no such thing as "citizen science," and the way most enthusiasts interacted with birds they liked to look at was to shoot them dead. But on Christmas Day in 1900, Chapman, an officer in the then-young Audubon Society, decided to organize his fellows for a bird count instead of the traditional hunt. <http://bit.ly/1G09I>

More CBC News

Scientific American <http://bit.ly/w3f2Nx>

New York Times <http://nyti.ms/vRpYUP>

Bird Note radio <http://bit.ly/rEOTJI>

Audubon's Christmas Bird Count - a holiday tradition (Chattanooga, TN) <http://bit.ly/tVxio2>

Audubon's David Ringer reports from Grand Isle, Louisiana, an area hard hit by the Gulf Oil Spill. His [blog](#) includes a video report with Audubon's Melanie Driscoll. More from David, including some of the

best photos, from three different counts in Louisiana. <http://ow.ly/85sY6>

Texan Bill Graber celebrates his 50th, and final, year compiling the Bolivar Peninsula's Christmas Bird count: <http://bit.ly/swSgb3>

Meet the love of your life at Audubon's Christmas Bird Count (Space Coast Audubon Society, Brevard County, FL) <http://bit.ly/vTW4ex>

Poetic Inspiration from the CBC: <http://t.co/sGBKf4GW> WRONG LINK, I THINK

CBC makes vital connection between birds and business in New Mexico
<http://www.publicnewsservice.org/index.php?/content/article/23726-1>

AUDUBON POLICY ACTION

Arkansas Audubon & Sierra Club Win Environmental Benefits in Coal Plant Settlement

<http://bit.ly/ruPfZ1>

Related News

<http://www.arktimes.com/ArkansasBlog/archives/2011/12/22/sierra-club-audubon-settle-with-swepc0-on-turk-power-plant>

David Yarnold tells *The New York Times* one of his main priorities was to "reconnect" and energize independent chapters of bird lovers over common political goals. "People were so discouraged in the wake of climate legislation and the general malaise around D.C., and they wanted to take action into their own hands," he said. His hope is to leverage enthusiasm in the chapters for protecting the local estuary into support, say, for the Clean Water Act. <http://nyti.ms/vKy1H2>

Audubon's Chris Canfield commends Gulf of Mexico Initiative <http://bit.ly/rDKctk>

Audubon's Melanie Driscoll talks to *The New York Times* on Gulf restoration. <http://nyti.ms/vCDM18>

AUDUBON MARKETPLACE

Birding Adventures host James Currie explains how to use new Audubon app <http://bit.ly/sk5NGW>

Sign up for the Audubon Guides newsletter and the chance to win an iPod Touch! Contest ends 12/31.
<http://bit.ly/twtjVQ>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Audubon's Birding the Net has a winner! <http://bit.ly/scoYDm>

Last 10 days to vote! Help Audubon, TogetherGreen & Olivia Bouler win a TED award:

<http://bit.ly/uJVV3g>

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Please send your announcements and news stories, including web links, to Delta Willis dwillis@audubon.org by January 20. The next regular edition of Newswire will be during the week of January 25, 2012.

May 2012 Bring You Peace, Joy & Good Health.

Audubon

Chapters

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Pennies for the
Planet