

**North American Ornithological Atlas Committee (NORAC)
2010 Workshop - Agenda**

Sunday, 6 February 2010, 09:00-17:00
Town & Country Resort and Convention Center
San Diego, California, USA

This workshop is open to anyone interested in learning more about ornithological atlases, how they can be used, and how to implement them.

Please arrive at 8:30 for informal meet-and-greet and so that we can begin promptly at 9:00

The conference website indicates that the meeting is being held in the **Eaton Room**, which is located in one of the buildings in front of the Regency Tower

Organizers:

Charles M. Francis, NORAC Chair, charles.francis@ec.gc.ca
Andrew Couturier, NORAC Co-Chair, acouturier@bsc-eoc.org

Introduction (Charles Francis)

- Review of progress since Portland meeting
- Monograph of atlas-related papers
- Review of agenda and desired outcomes of this meeting
- Atlas Handbook

Short updates on current atlases (Andrew Couturier)

- Short updates from atlas coordinators or delegates on currently active or recent atlases (5-10 minutes each) – should emphasize features that are new or distinctive in each atlas and that might be of particular interest to others developing atlases

Road Map for completing the Atlas Handbook

- Guidelines for authors
- Review procedures
- Handbook lead and committee

NORAC Business Session

- Web page, listserv
- Officers
- Next meeting – August 2012 NAOC Vancouver

LUNCH (on your own - tentative timing)

Quantitative sampling and related issues (Discussion lead – Charles Francis) (1 hour +/-)

- Presentation by Nancy Drilling, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, *Estimating Species Detection Probabilities in the South Dakota Breeding Bird Atlas*
- Ensuring representative coverage
- Prioritizing effort when full coverage is not possible

Analyzing change in bird distribution/population in next generation atlases (Discussion leads – Peter Blancher and Charles Francis) (1 hour +/-)

- Presentation by Peter Blancher, Environment Canada, *Measuring change between atlases - Ontario and elsewhere*

- Correcting for differences in survey effort
- Lessons from next generation atlas projects
- Project design recommendations

Habitat data (Discussion lead – Nancy Drilling) (20 min)

- Adding value to atlas projects?
- Types of data to collect
- Remote sensing vs participant observations

Data Management (Discussion lead – Mark Wimer) (20 min)

- Essential features
- Best practices
- Web-based systems

Spatial Analysis and Mapping (Discussion lead – Andrew Couturier) (20 min)

- Mapping relative abundance, breeding evidence, change
- Dynamic versus static mapping approaches
- Server and desktop tools
- Best practices

Conclusion

- Wrap up and review
- Next steps for completing the Handbook