

Getting Block Information

1. Map:*

- a. Go to the Explorer (USGS) Database:

http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bba/index.cfm?fa=explore.ProjectHome&BBA_ID=MA2007

- b. You don't have to sign in. (You will be looking at the "Atlas Home" page.)
- c. On the left-hand side, click on "Block Maps." You can print out the map.

2. Report of data entered so far:

- a. Go to the same database.

- b. But this time, you have to sign in.* (You will then be on the "My Atlas" page.)

- c. Select (on the left) the "Block Results Detail" (there are other places in the database where you can get block results, but this is a better version.)

- d. When you get to the next webpage, BEFORE you select the block, click the little box that says "Show All Atlas Species" - if you don't do that you will only get a list of those birds seen on BBA1 and BBA2 - not the ones that were missed.

- e. Print out the list - and, based on the map and your knowledge of the area, highlight missed species that you think might be there and the POs that, in the best of all worlds, might be upgraded.

3. Review the breeding codes - chose the format that works for you:

- a. <http://www.massaudubon.org/birdatlas/bba2/methods/index.php>, click on Checklists

- b. On the Explorer Database (on the Atlas Home page), select Species Info

- c. On <http://www.hampshirebirdclub.org>, select Breeding Bird Atlas and then Franklin Hampshire Atlas list.

4. Study any unfamiliar song/bird behavior. See especially Jim Berry's "Tips" on <http://www.hampshirebirdclub.org> - click on Breeding Bird Atlas.

5. Keep track of your TIME as well as the species, date, and behavior. Sometimes you will not be able to do it (saw the bird while driving, biking, washing dishes), but mostly you can and it will be useful in the final atlas analysis. (And, of course, enter your data - but you know that.)

* If you don't know the name: <http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/BreedingBirdAtlas/viewer.htm> Use the magnifying and hand tool to find the block you want. For sign-in problems (or other problems) contact your atlas coordinator.