

# eBird-1.1-RecentObservationsAtLocations

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## Description

Returns a list of recent observations at birding locations.

This is part of the [eBird version 1.1 API](#).

## Google Gadgets

There are Google Gadgets with eBird Trail Tacker and eBird branding which can be used to consume the data provided by this service. [Information about using those gadgets](#).

## URL

### Base URL

<http://ebird.org/ws1.1/data/obs/loc/recent>

### Examples

Minimal:

<http://ebird.org/ws1.1/data/obs/loc/recent?r=L99381>

Fully specified:

[http://ebird.org/ws1.1/data/obs/loc/recent?r=L99381&r=L104031&back=5&maxResults=500&detail=simple&locale=en\\_US&fmt=json&includeProvisional=true](http://ebird.org/ws1.1/data/obs/loc/recent?r=L99381&r=L104031&back=5&maxResults=500&detail=simple&locale=en_US&fmt=json&includeProvisional=true)

## Parameter Descriptions

Parameter Name	Required	Default	Value Options	Example Value	Description
back		14	1 - 30 integer	7	the number of days back to look for observations
maxResults			1 - 10000 integer	10	the maximum number of result rows to return in this request; to get all results do not include this parameter
detail		simple	simple, full	simple	toggle to restrict results to either all or a subset of sighting fields. see <a href="#">result field descriptions</a>
locale		en_US	Java standard locale codes	fr_CA	Language/locale of response (when translations are available). See <a href="http://java.sun.com/javase/6/docs/api/java/util/Locale.html">http://java.sun.com/javase/6/docs/api/java/util/Locale.html</a> .
fmt		xml	json, xml	json	format of the response
r	yes		any locID	L99381	Code(s) for region of interest; here, regions are any locID. LocIDs that are not valid are ignored. Maximum of 10 locIDs.
includeProvisional		false	true,false	false	set to true if you'd like flagged records that have not yet been reviewed to be included in the results

## Simple Result Fields

Field (JSON)	Field (XML)	Description
comName	com-name	species common name. not included in the 'simple' detail if a scientific name was specified as an input parameter

sciName	sci-name	species scientific name. not included in the 'simple' detail if a scientific name was specified as an input parameter
obsDt	obs-dt	observation date formatted according to <a href="#">ISO 8601</a> (e.g. 'YYYY-MM-DD', or 'YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm'). Hours and minutes are excluded if the observer did not report an observation time.
howMany	how-many	The number observed. Not included if only presence was noted
locID	loc-id	unique identifier for the location
locationPrivate	location-private	'true' if location is not a birding hotspot. 'false' otherwise
locName	loc-name	location name
lat	lat	latitude of the location
lng	lng	longitude of the location
obsReviewed	obs-reviewed	'true' if obs has been reviewed. 'false' otherwise
obsValid	obs-valid	'true' if obs has been deemed valid by either the automatic filters or a regional reviewer. 'false' otherwise

## Example Responses

### XML

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<response>
  <header>
    <locale country="US" language="en"/>
    <timestamp>
      2009-07-01T10:29:53.035-04:00
    </timestamp>
    <criteria>
      <command>
        <fmt>
          xml
        </fmt>
        <include-provisional>
          true
        </include-provisional>
        <r>
          L99381
        </r>
        <back>
          30
        </back>
        <max-results>
          500
        </max-results>
        <detail>
          simple
        </detail>
      </command>
    </criteria>
  </header>
  <result>
    <sighting>
      <loc-id>
        L99381
      </loc-id>
      <obs-dt>
        2009-06-24 17:00
      </obs-dt>
      <obs-reviewed>
        false
      </obs-reviewed>
      <obs-valid>
        true
      </obs-valid>
      <loc-name>
        Stewart Park
      </loc-name>
      <how-many>
        1
      </how-many>
      <lat>
        42.4613266
      </lat>
      <lng>
        -76.5059255
      </lng>
      <com-name>
        Barn Swallow
      </com-name>
      <sci-name>
        Hirundo rustica
      </sci-name>
    </sighting>
  </result>
</response>

```

**JSON**

```
[{
  "locID": "L99381",
  "lat": 42.4613266,
  "howMany": 1,
  "locName": "Stewart Park",
  "obsValid": true,
  "lng": -76.5059255,
  "sciName": "Hirundo rustica",
  "obsReviewed": false,
  "obsDt": "2009-06-24 17:00",
  "comName": "Barn Swallow"
}]
```

## Full Result Fields

In addition to the fields above, these fields are included in the response when full detail is requested:

Field (JSON)	Field (XML)	Description
subnational2Code	subnational2-code	county code
subnational2Name	subnational2-name	county name
subnational1Code	subnational1-code	state/province ISO code
subnational1Name	subnational1-name	state/province name
countryCode	country-code	country ISO code
userDisplayName	user-display-name	first and last name of the observer, when available
countryName	country-name	country name
firstName	first-name	observer's first name, when available (DEPRECATED in favor of userDisplayName)
lastName	last-name	observer's last name, when available (DEPRECATED in favor of userDisplayName)
subID	sub-id	submission ID
obsID	obs-id	observation ID
checklistID	checklist-id	checklist ID
presenceNoted	presence-noted	'true' if user marked presence but did not count the number of birds. 'false' otherwise

## Example Responses

Note that "full" detail nearly triples the size of the response on average.

### XML

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<response>
  <header>
    <locale country="US" language="en" />
    <timestamp>
      2009-07-01T11:26:06.296-04:00
    </timestamp>
    <criteria>
      <fmt>
        xml
      </fmt>
      <hotspot>
        false
      </hotspot>
      <rtype>
        subnational1
      </rtype>
    </r>
  </header>
  <obs>
    <obsID>
      123456789
    </obsID>
    <subID>
      987654321
    </subID>
    <checklistID>
      111111111
    </checklistID>
    <countryCode>
      US
    </countryCode>
    <subnational2Code>
      1234
    </subnational2Code>
    <subnational1Code>
      5678
    </subnational1Code>
    <locID>
      L99381
    </locID>
    <locName>
      Stewart Park
    </locName>
    <sciName>
      Hirundo rustica
    </sciName>
    <comName>
      Barn Swallow
    </comName>
    <obsDt>
      2009-06-24 17:00
    </obsDt>
    <obsValid>
      true
    </obsValid>
    <obsReviewed>
      false
    </obsReviewed>
    <howMany>
      1
    </howMany>
    <presenceNoted>
      true
    </presenceNoted>
    <userDisplayName>
      John Doe
    </userDisplayName>
    <firstName>
      John
    </firstName>
    <lastName>
      Doe
    </lastName>
  </obs>
</response>
```

```

        US-NY
    </r>
    <back>
        5
    </back>
    <max-results>
        500
    </max-results>
    <detail>
        full
    </detail>
</criteria>
</header>
<result>
    <sighting>
        <sub-id>
            S5130155
        </sub-id>
        <obs-id>
            OBS72270247
        </obs-id>
        <checklist-id>
            CL22361
        </checklist-id>
        <loc-id>
            L285876
        </loc-id>
        <presence-noted>
            false
        </presence-noted>
        <location-private>
            true
        </location-private>
        <country-name>
            United States
        </country-name>
        <country-code>
            US
        </country-code>
        <subnational2-name>
            Richmond
        </subnational2-name>
        <subnational2-code>
            US-NY-085
        </subnational2-code>
        <first-name>
            Catherine
        </first-name>
        <subnational1-name>
            New York
        </subnational1-name>
        <last-name>
            Barron
        </last-name>
        <subnational1-code>
            US-NY
        </subnational1-code>
        <obs-dt>
            2009-06-30 13:30
        </obs-dt>
        <obs-reviewed>
            false
        </obs-reviewed>
        <obs-valid>
            false
        </obs-valid>
        <loc-name>
            SI-South Beach/Ft Wadsworth
        </loc-name>
        <how-many>
            2

```

```

        </how-many>
        <lat>
            40.6028326
        </lat>
        <lng>
            -74.0537782
        </lng>
        <com-name>
            Red-throated Loon
        </com-name>
        <sci-name>
            Gavia stellata
        </sci-name>
    </sighting>
</result>
</response>

```

## JSON

```

[ {
    "locID": "L285876",
    "locationPrivate": true,
    "checklistID": "CL22361",
    "obsValid": false,
    "presenceNoted": false,
    "countryCode": "US",
    "subnational1Name": "New York",
    "subnational1Code": "US-NY",
    "lastName": "Barron",
    "lat": 40.6028326,
    "howMany": 2,
    "firstName": "Catherine",
    "sciName": "Gavia stellata",
    "subnational2Name": "Richmond",
    "subnational2Code": "US-NY-085",
    "obsReviewed": false,
    "comName": "Red-throated Loon",
    "obsID": "OBS72270247",
    "locName": "SI-South Beach/Ft Wadsworth",
    "lng": -74.0537782,
    "subID": "S5130155",
    "obsDt": "2009-06-30 13:30",
    "countryName": "United States"
} ]

```

## Special Conditions and Error Handling

If there are validation problems with the input parameters the response will have an appropriate HTTP status code (e.g., 400) and details of the problem will be provided in the result format requested (JSON or XML).

## Error Responses

### XML

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<response>
  <header>
    <locale country="US" language="en"/>
    <timestamp>
      2009-07-01T10:45:34.758-04:00
    </timestamp>
    <criteria>
      <command>
        <fmt>
          xml
        </fmt>
        <include-provisional>
          true
        </include-provisional>
        <r>
          L99381
        </r>
        <back>
          320
        </back>
        <max-results>
          500
        </max-results>
        <detail>
          simple
        </detail>
      </command>
    </criteria>
    <errors>
      <error>
        <error-msg>
          The maximum number of days back is 30
        </error-msg>
        <error-code>
          error.data.too_many_back
        </error-code>
      </error>
    </errors>
  </header>
  <result/>
</response>

```

## JSON

The response will include a simple array containing details of the problems encountered:

```

[ {
  "errorMsg": "The maximum number of days back is 30",
  "errorCode": "error.data.too_many_back"
} ]

```

## Current List of Error Messages

This list may change or be added to at any time. Items in brackets will be specified at the time the message is received.

```
error.data.dist_out_of_range = Distance must be between {0} and {1}
error.data.lat_out_of_range = Latitude out of range
error.data.lng_out_of_range = Longitude out of range
error.data.lat_required = Parameter 'lat' is required
error.data.lng_required = Parameter 'lng' is required
error.data.rcodes_required = Please specify a region code
error.data.rtype_required = The parameter 'rtype' for region type is required
error.data.rcodes_toomany = Too many region codes. Please limit your selection to {0} region codes.
error.data.too_many_back = The maximum number of days back is {0}
error.data.too_few_back = Please specify a number of days back greater than zero.
error.data.too_many_results = Please specify a "maxResults" parameter greater than {0}.
error.data.too_few_results = Please specify a "maxResults" parameter less than or equal to {0}.
error.data.unknown_species = Unknown species: {0}
error.data.sci_required = Please specify the scientific name of the species of interest with the parameter 'sci'.
error.data.unsupported_detail = Sorry, the "{0}" detail is not currently supported for this service.
error.data.unsupported_rtype = Sorry, the region type "{0}" is not currently supported for this service.
error.unsupported_fmt = Sorry, {0} format is not currently supported for this service.
```

## Caching Information

For details on caching of results by our servers, see [eBird-1.1-CacheInformation](#)

Unknown macro: {import}