

eBird-1.1-RecentNearbyObservations

Recent eBird Observations Made Nearby a Location - Version 1.1

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Description

Returns the most recent sighting date and specific location for each species of bird reported within the number of days specified by the "back" parameter and reported in the specified area.

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

URL

Base URL

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

Examples

Minimal:

<http://ebird.org/ws1.1/data/obs/geo/recent?lng=-76.51&lat=42.46>

Fully specified:

http://ebird.org/ws1.1/data/obs/geo/recent?lng=-76.51&lat=42.46&dist=2&back=5&maxResults=500&locale=en_US&fmt=json

Parameter Descriptions

Parameter Name	Required	Default	Value Options	Example Value	Description
lat	yes		-90.00 - 90.00 decimal	42.46	decimal latitude, two decimal places of precision required
lng	yes		-180.00 - 180.00 decimal	-76.51	decimal longitude, two decimal places of precision required
dist		25	0 - 50 integer	15	distance defining radius of interest from given lat/lng in kilometers
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
locale		en_US	Java standard locale codes	fr_CA	Language/locale of response (when translations are available). See http://java.sun.com/javase/6/docs/api/java/util/Locale.html .
fmt		xml	json, xml	json	format of the response
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
hotspot		false	true, false	false	set to true if results should be limited to sightings at birding hotspots

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 ISO 8601 (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"
}]
```

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}