DoD Participation in the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN): the Who, What, Where, When, Why, and How

DoD AKN NMFWA Training, March 10, 2025, Louisville, Kentucky

Agenda

All times Eastern Standard Time (EST)

Monday, March 10

All times Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

0800 (45 min) — Welcome, Introductions, and the Avian Data Lifecycle

Welcome to the DoD / AKN workshop on using the AKN technologies for managing and utilizing avian data in the AKN.

- Welcome and introductions
- Review the workshop agenda
- Logistics and facilities
- What to do if you encounter technical problems
- The Avian Data Lifecycle

0845 (20 min) — AKN Project Data 101

We will cover how the AKN represents observational data and how to find the best way to organize and curate your data in a project database.

- How the AKN organizes data
- What is a Program?
- What is a Project Database?

0905 (65 min) — Managing Project Metadata - Protocols and Sampling Units

We will cover how to create and manage metadata in our Project Database.

- Protocols and Sampling Units
- Choosing and managing protocols (DEMONSTRATION of Biologist (https://data.pointblue.org/science/biologists/) for *Protocol Research* and *Manage Protocols for Project*)
- EXERCISE 1: Creating the Point Count sampling unit hierarchy (PDF (Exercise1-CreateSamplingUnits.pdf))
- BREAK - when you are finished with Exercise 1, you are welcome to take a break until class resumes at 10:15.

1015 (15 min) — Managing Project Metadata - Researchers

We will continue learning how to create and manage metadata in our Project Database.

- Download the sampling units into a GIS file (DEMONSTRATION of Biologist (https://data.pointblue.org/science/biologists/) for *Download Locations to GPS, GIS and more*)
- Researchers
- Demonstration - Adding researchers (DEMONSTRATION of Biologist (https://data.pointblue.org/science/biologists/) for *Assign Researchers to Project*)

1030 (25 min) — Entering Observation Data

We will cover how to enter observation data into the Project Database that is defined by the metadata we created.

- EXERCISE 2: Enter and proof a point count field survey (PDF (Exercise2-EnterPointCountObservations.pdf))
- Downloading your point count data (DEMONSTRATION of Biologist (https://data.pointblue.org/science/biologists/) for *Download Observations*)

1055 (45 min) — Bulk loading data to a Project

We will cover how to bulk load data into the Project Database.

- Templates for uploading, and batch processing
- EXERCISE 3: Bulk loading sampling locations (PDF (Exercise3-BulkLoadingSamplingUnits.pdf))

1140 (20 min) — Managing Project Data - Data Sharing Levels

We will give an overview of what data sharing levels we have and how the project leader controls them.

- What data sharing levels are available?
- Motivations for sharing data
- Setting data sharing levels (DEMONSTRATION of Biologist for *DataSharingLevels*)

1200 (60 min) — Lunch Break

1300 (40 min) — AKN Warehouse Data 101

We will cover how data flows and is made available to other tools and users across DoD and the AKN.

- What is a Data Warehouse?
- Data sharing levels and the AKN tools that use them.
- Data ownership guidelines/policies and agreements.

1340 (60 min) — Discovering observation data

We will cover how to discover other projects using the AKN.

- Demonstration of RAIL Tool
- EXERCISE 4: Create a species list with RAIL Tool (PDF (Exercise4-CreateSpeciesListWithRAILTool.pdf))
- Downloading data from a Warehouse using Data Download (DEMONSTRATION of Data Downloader (https://data.pointblue.org/apps/downloader/))

1440 (15 min) — Break

1455 (35 min) — Looking for trends

We will explore solving some of the specific problems that are faced by DoD facilities.

- Looking at data in Analyst (DEMONSTRATION of Analysts (https://data.pointblue.org/apps/analysts/) for *data review*)
- EXERCISE 5: Using the Analyst and Observations Map (PDF (Exercise5-ExploreSpeciesAndTrendsWithDataCatalogAndObservationsMap.pdf))

1530 (60 min) — What should you expect in the coming year with AKN and DoD?

We will cover plans and updates for DoD and the AKN.

- DoD AKN Program Overview
- DoD Data Needs
- DoD Mission-Sensitive Species
- Contracting Language
- DoD AKN User Guide
- New AKN Tools
- FY25 Priority Tasks
- And more!
- What do you want to see?

1630 (15 min) — Next Steps for You

We will show how you will add new users as a Project Leader.

- Creating a new log-in for a biologist or project leader (DEMONSTRATION of steps to register and approve a new user)
- Assigning roles to project personnel (DEMONSTRATION in ProjectLeaders (https://data.pointblue.org//apps/projectleaders/))
- Creating a new researcher (DEMONSTRATION in ProjectLeaders (https://data.pointblue.org//apps/projectleaders/))

1640 (20 min) — Wrap-up, Pluses and Deltas

We will evaluate the day and make sure everyone is clear on Office Hours Wednesday.

- Pluses and Deltas
- Reminder of office hours
- Final questions