



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

AKN Virtual Training, Guam/CNMI February 4 & 6, 2026

Agenda

All times Chamorro Standard Time (ChST)

Wednesday, February 4

All times Chamorro Standard Time (ChST)

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
- The Avian Data Lifecycle
- What to do if you encounter technical problems

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 (5 min) — Stretch Break

0910 (50 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 Project Leaders (<https://www.dodakn.org/manage-data/#get-data-in>) for configuring protocols, linked from the DOD AKN Portal)
- EXERCISE 1: Creating the Point Count sampling unit hierarchy (PDF ([Exercise1-CreateSamplingUnits.pdf](#)))

1000 (15 min) — BREAK

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 Project Downloader (<https://www.dodakn.org/manage-data/#discover-data>) for downloading sampling units, linked from the DOD AKN Portal)
- Researchers
- Demonstration - Adding researchers (DEMONSTRATION of Project Leaders (<https://www.dodakn.org/manage-data/#get-data-in>) for adding researchers to your project, linked from the DOD AKN Portal)

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 Project Downloader (<https://www.dodakn.org/manage-data/#discover-data>) for downloading observation data, linked from the DOD AKN Portal)

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) — Wrap-up, Plus/Delta

Day 1 wrap-up.

- Plus/Delta (PDF (PlusDelta.pdf))
- Parking lot review
- Setting the stage for Friday.

1200 — Adjourn

Friday, February 6

All times Chamorro Standard Time (ChST)

0800 (25 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 Project Leaders (<https://www.dodakn.org/manage-data/#get-data-in>) for setting sharing levels, linked from the DOD AKN Portal)

0825 (20 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.

0845 (55 min) — Discovering observation data

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

- (DEMONSTRATION of R.A.I.L. Tool (<https://www.dodakn.org/manage-data/#make-decisions>) for exploring avian species regionally, linked from the DOD AKN Portal)
- Downloading data from a Warehouse using Data Download (DEMONSTRATION of Data Downloader (<https://www.dodakn.org/manage-data/#discover-data>) for downloading Level 5 data from the Warehouse, linked from the DOD AKN Portal)

0940 (15 min) — BREAK

0955 (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://www.dodakn.org/manage-data/#explore-data>) for data review, linked via DOD AKN Portal)
- EXERCISE 5: Using the Analyst and Observations Map (PDF (Exercise5-ExploreSpeciesAndTrendsWithObservationsMapandAnalyst.pdf))

1030 (60 min) — DOD AKN Program

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

1130 (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://www.dodakn.org/manage-data/#get-data-in>))
- Creating a new researcher (DEMONSTRATION in ProjectLeaders (<https://www.dodakn.org/manage-data/#get-data-in>))

1145 (15 min) — Wrap-up, Pluses and Deltas

Day 2 review.

- Plus/Delta (PDF (PlusDelta.pdf))
- Parking lot review
- Final questions

1200 — Adjourn